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THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion.'

No. 128.—VOL. III. LONDON: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 1843. PRICE 6*d*.

Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE PRETEXT FOR QUIESCENCE.

THE correspondence we continue to receive from all parts of the country, on the subject of an anti-state-church conference, and the practical steps we know to be in progress towards the realisation of the idea we ventured, some time back, to suggest, render us the more anxious to remove from the path of sincere dissenters such objections to the project in question as appear to be founded upon an intelligible basis. Now that there exists a strong probability that a convention will be summoned, if not by those whose position points them out as the parties upon whom the duty most naturally devolves, then by others whose earnest zeal will brook no further delay, it becomes a matter of no inconsiderable importance to deal gently with, and, if possible, to pat into good-humoured co-operation the scruples which, in many quarters, ruffle up in opposition to any onward movement of the nonconforming body. Sure we are that our influential men, did they but know the perplexity of mind, fast ripening into suspicion, which their reluctance to step forward is everywhere producing, would review their policy with more than ordinary care. They need only, as we have done, to feel the pulse of dissenters in the provinces, to convince them that not the most determined quiescence on their part will succeed in preventing the agitation they appear to deprecate. Public feeling has risen above the level at which such a result is practicable. It were wiser, therefore, to consider whether, since a movement for the separation of the church from the state *will* be made, and will enlist the energies of no small or contemptible portion of the dissenting community, the interests of truth do not claim, at their hands, a cordial union with the advancing party.

The common pretext put forward for quiescence deserves consideration. We call it a pretext, not offensively, for we impugn not the sincerity of those who employ it; but we cannot designate it otherwise, inasmuch as it floats loosely upon the surface of opinion, and is unconnected with aught which deserves the name of combined, serious, and patient deliberation. It is this. Within the pale of the established church of England the elements of present division and of future secession are already rife—party is contending with party upon doctrinal subjects of vital moment. It becomes us, therefore, to imitate the recent conduct of the dissenters in Scotland—to stand by and watch the progress of internal contentions—and to be especially cautious, lest by assuming an aggressive attitude towards the establishment as such, we alarm the now hostile sections into an alliance, and thus array against our principles the undivided force of the whole body of state-church advocates. Such is, in substance, the objection with which we have to deal—and if we can succeed in showing it to be invalid, we hope to win over to our movement a number of men who, anxious for the final overthrow of state-religionism, believe that the end is more speedily and more certainly to be reached by leaving the establishment to be rent asunder by inward conflicts than by attempting its subversion by external assaults.

The objection under notice appears to us to derive such force as it has from a confusion of ideas—a confusion not altogether unnatural, although tolerably obvious to the reflecting. A favourable position of dissenters is mistaken for a favourable position of dissenting principles—and a church divided upon doctrinal questions is held to be identical with a church weakened, to the whole extent of that division, in its attachment to an alliance with the civil power.

That the position of dissenters, in relation to a dominant sect, is a matter of trivial importance, we will not affirm—but thus much we make bold to assert, that it sinks into utter insignificance in comparison of the advancement of those truths which almost all sections of the body profess to hold. Were it clear, therefore, which it is not, that a determined assertion of the essential spirituality of Christ's kingdom, a well-devised organisation to promote a recognition of that principle by public opinion, and a resolute assault of an ecclesiastical system which practically repudiates it as false and absurd, would place the several sections of nonconforming society in a weaker and more exposed position than that which they now occupy, by arraying against them a combination of forces at present divided, it would yet remain to be proved that duty forbids them to take part in an aggressive movement. The primary object to be aimed at is the diffusion of the truth committed to their trust. Their own position, as subjects of a politico-ecclesiastical government, is a very inferior and secondary matter. The question, therefore, resolves itself into this—Whether the active and united opposition, which the zealous promulgation of truth may be expected to provoke, is calculated to retard or to subserve its progress. Public opinion must be won over to the principles we hold. The immediate attempt to enlist public opinion in their favour may possibly expose to annoyance those who undertake it. But will any reasonable man affirm that such annoyance is to be pleaded in bar of an earnest agitation of the whole question? How are our views to be otherwise diffused than by serious, persevering, and enlightened discussion? When was it ever known that active opposition ultimately injured the truth it was organised to put down? Does not uniform experience testify that sound principles contend at greater disadvantage with indifference than with hostility and persecution? Let the existing amount of state-church feeling gather head and show itself in all its virulence—what then? Dissenters may suffer—their social position may be rendered more difficult—but surely it will not be said that the doctrine of the exclusive headship of Christ over his church, or of the spirituality of his kingdom, will be thereby placed at disadvantage.

It is to be noted further, in answer to the objection under review, that the internal condition of a church is one thing, and its alliance with the secular power another and a totally different one. It may be quite true that, within the pale of the establishment, the doctrines comprehended under the term Puseyism are causing serious divisions—but it is not true that those divisions affect the relationship of the whole body to the civil power. Both parties agree on this subject; and, whilst internal feuds may disturb the unanimity of the English church, in so far as respects the mutual position of the parties composing it, it is difficult to see how they will alter the connexion of the entire community with the state. The very objection we are discussing implies that the quarrel between Puseyites and Evangelicals will be hushed the moment that dissenters make a demonstration against the principle of church establishments. Now, our object should be, not to see a dominant ecclesiastical body worrying itself with serious doctrinal differences, within its own pale—but the separation of both parties from an inconsistent and unseemly alliance. The first may be promoted by the quiescence of dissenters—the last will lose rather than gain thereby. The triumph of Puseyism may drive out of the existing establishment a considerable body of evangelical churchmen—but the question between the contending parties being one of doctrine merely, it is difficult to see what good fruits the principle of voluntaryism will reap from the secession. The question of a state church will be left just where it was. The number of nonconformists will be increased, but opinion in favour of the exclusive spirituality of the church will have made no progress.

The Scotch secession is a very inapt illustration of the benefits to be expected from standing still. That secession was an ultimate result, not of dissenting inaction, but of dissenting activity. The nonconformists in Scotland, long before the elements of dissension began to show themselves in the kirk, had diligently and unsparingly sowed, in the public mind, the seeds of truth. It was only when they observed that, as one effect of their exertions, a controversy directly bearing upon the principle of establishments had sprung up within the bosom of the church, that they sheathed for a time the weapons of active warfare, and having kindled a fire, laid aside the torch. The wisdom of their *temporary* silence is even now questionable—for it is quite within the limits of possibility that had they pressed forward with as zealous a determination as that evinced by them at the commencement of the conflict, the present secession would have been a more enlightened, if not a more sincere, one; and those who are now only *de facto* voluntaries might have become voluntaries on principle. Be this as it may, English dissenters cannot plead the example as encouraging their own quiescence. The controversy now raging within the English establishment is entirely distinct from, and irrespective of, the mutual relationship of civil and ecclesiastical authorities. Upon this point, nothing has yet been done by nonconformists which may hereafter turn a secession to account. A multiplication of chapel-goers is, unfortunately, anything but identical with the promotion of anti-state-church opinions and principles.

We beg respectfully to submit to those who put forward this pretext for inaction, whether an earnest and uncompromising assertion of our principles, instead of ranging against them the now divided sections of the church of England, may not open the eyes of men having a greater care for religion than for party, to the true origin of the dangers which now alarm them. Possibly if, instead of skulking away, we were boldly and kindly to step up to the evangelical party, and show them that Romanism is to be feared no longer than when it is allied with the secular power, and that protestantism so allied has ever exhibited some of the most formidable tendencies of Romanism, we should be more likely to convince than to provoke them. At all events, it is worth a trial—and should it fail, we shall enjoy the consolation of having made a sincere effort to separate the wheat from the chaff, and to bring into the paths of truth sincere but unenlightened, and therefore erring, brethren.

PROPOSED ANTI-STATE-CHURCH CONVENTION.

In accordance with the intimation expressed in our last number, we give below a few extracts, selected from the mass of correspondence we have received, bearing upon the question of the desirableness of convening a conference of Dissenters, for promoting the separation of church and state. In order that there may be no breach of confidence on our part, the names of the places and parties from whom and whence the communications have been received are withheld. To give a greater completeness to the general result, the extracts have been arranged under distinct headings. We shall continue them next week.

DESIRABLENESS OF HOLDING A CONVENTION.

"I believe there are tens of thousands in these nations who will cordially sympathise with so noble and divine an object. The times are favourable, and the people all *alive*, *awake*, and *willing*. They only require wise and firm *generals* to render them, or rather their principles, under the blessing of Heaven, victorious. The enemy already begins to quail before the force of truth, and, if we are only true to our God and to our principles, his strongholds may soon be stormed. The people are moving—and they WILL move—no created power can stop their progress; and if those whom they have regarded as their leaders will not go before them, they will march on *without* them. This is the opinion of many ministers with whom I have conversed on the subject. The great object which the ministers of Christ should have in view, at this important crisis, should be to *guide* the popular mind, to direct its thinking and acting into proper channels."

"I can assure you that all the more intelligent of our respective congregations are of the same mind. We are decidedly of opinion that the present is the time for vigorous action. The recent attempts of the adversaries have taught us a lesson which we should never forget. Let the movement begin, and doubtless it will progress."

"It appears to me to be now full time to make a united and determined move against this monster evil. The late attempt of the high church party, through the measure of Sir James Graham, ought to teach Dissenters that, unless they mean to be always trodden upon by the foot of ecclesiastical oppression, and to have their religious liberties constantly endangered by insidious and party legislation, they must abandon their defensive policy, leave their entrenchments, and put the enemy in fear by boldly assuming the aggressive. He will never cease to beard and smite us while we are found only in the attitude of suppliants, and quail in apprehension before him."

"Nothing among Dissenters is more needed, in order to exhibit their strength, concentrate their force, and render their efforts in the cause of liberty successful. Their efforts have hitherto been detached and local, and have suffered a consequent diminution of strength. Let there be a common ocean into which they may flow, then their energy shall be irresistible. If it be of importance to form suffrage, anti-corn-law, and other leagues, is it not of much more importance that there be an association for the purpose of separating truth from error, religion from priestcraft, the things that are not of this world from the things that are? Dissenters have, in times past, been apathetic; they have feared being called 'Political;' they have been contented to leave affairs of state to those who have had no other notion of right and wrong than that of expediency—to those who have looked on religion, not as divine and sacred, but as an instrument of government. I do hope and believe

that the late Graham attempt has destroyed the opiate slumbers in which they have so long indulged, opened their minds to a sense of their duties, and caused them to perceive that, so long as a connection between church and state exists, so long are their rights and liberties at the mercy of a faction."

"If a convention could be assembled, composed of men who would take up the principle of church establishments on the highest ground, and oppose the present sectarian and unnational church, on the simple motive of a Christian love of justice, surely its effects must be manifestly felt. * * * The suggestion of a convention seems to me a good one, and, as the article states, the present time most suitable for such a movement. In such an undertaking much encouragement must come from the beneficial result that has attended the late petitions of Dissenters to Parliament, respecting the educational scheme of government. There are indeed some evils in such a plan of proceeding as that of a convention, which need guarding against. The most likely one, I fear, is that the members of such convention may not all take up the cause on the highest ground. It was to me a lamentable fact that, at the late convention in Manchester, the ministers sought to justify their assembling, and to advocate the cause of it on a *textual* principle, rather than on the great spirit of justice and benevolence which Christianity breathes."

"I thank you most cordially for bringing and keeping before your readers the affair of a convention. In my judgment it is the best first step that Dissenters can take in the approaching war, which, be they willing or unwilling, they *must* wage against the national establishment. To neglect the present most favourable period for beginning this 'holy war,' would be a deed almost without a parallel for infatuation, to say nothing of its sin. Dissenters must not quietly be allowed to reach the apex of either."

"The issue of the contest now commencing is not doubtful; but its duration may be affected by the wisdom, the promptitude, the energy, and the perseverance of those who range themselves on the side of pure self-supporting Christianity. Public opinion is even now the power to which civil and religious functionaries must eventually succumb—whenever it is made to bear, in its full available force, upon any point whatever. Unhappily our corrupt legislature is a medium of a very unimpressible kind—a medium very ill-fitted to *conduct* the mental electric power of the people. It is a very bad conductor of moral and intellectual influence. The power which is able to burst through its potent resistance must be collected from a large surface, and concentrated till it acquires a portentous intensity. But, when it accumulates in the required amount, it is able to burst through any intervening space, and shiver or consume and dissipate any resisting material whatever. I regard the assembling of such a convention as the bringing into working order and vigorous action a mighty intellectual machine, fraught with an energy which is in reality incalculable."

"Such a convention cannot but be productive of good, even though it should fail in effecting the principal purpose for which it was called. If it failed in uniting the whole Dissenting community for a series of attacks upon state-churchism, it would at least unite a portion of them; and in the present state of public feeling, a small force, if determined and well officered, might achieve a brilliant and stainless victory."

"I think, if our Nonconforming brethren in England would take a lesson from the recent agitation of the church controversy in Scotland, they would not be so backward to move in the right direction as they appear to be; for what is the late secession in the Church of Scotland to be attributed to, but to the co-operation and agitation of the Scottish Dissenters for an entire separation of church and state, that agitation conducted, directed, and led on by the Scottish Central Board of Dissenters. The agitation thus produced carried the war of the controversy into the camp of the Church of Scotland, so that now she has lately, as you are aware, rent herself asunder. And now, as regards this country, it will require but little to convince the public mind of the inexpedient and unscriptural alliance of the church with the state in any form whatever."

"Some years since two or three individuals near this place talked of the feasibleness of cutting a carriage-road by the side of a dangerous ravine to a fine seabeach, to enable the farmers to fetch their own manure (and *in their own carriages*), at a small expense. The proprietors were laughed to scorn, but the thing has since been accomplished, and great are the beneficial results. I say, let us TRY."

"The plan you have suggested must meet with the approval of all sincere and honest Dissenters, who are not afraid to follow out their own principles. It may be long before a time so favourable as the present is again afforded. I trust, therefore, that many influential ministers and other friends among the Nonconformists will immediately afford you that assistance and support which an undertaking of this magnitude requires. I say *immediately*, for no time is to be lost. Everything seems favourable to such an undertaking, and, if entered upon with becoming seriousness and prayer for the Divine blessing, we have every reason to believe that success would soon follow."

"Although the Wesleyans might not take any prominent part in such a purpose, I trust the circumstances connected with Mr. Bright's return for Durham will show that, however desirous the Wesleyan ministers may be to uphold aristocratic influence, this is by no means the feeling of the body at large, there being a very large amount of democratic principle existing, which only requires an occasion to call it forth, and would doubtless prove a powerful auxiliary to the other dissenting bodies on any emergency."

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

"With regard to the best mode of giving expression to such a sentiment, I think—judging from the usefulness thereof in connection with the Anti-Slavery, Peace, and other societies—that a conference offers more advantages, and promises greater efficiency, than any other plan that has been suggested. It involves more economy of time and energy and money, with the prospect of more rapid and extensive influence, than any other mode of which I have any conception can secure."

"A convention upon this subject will be the first best move in the right direction; but to this convention I should like to attach an object, at once attainable, for extending education throughout the country by the following simple plan:—Take, for example, a congregation of 1000, who should be expected to contribute a small weekly sum, say 1d.; this would amount to £216 15s. 4d. per annum; to collect which I would divide it into 50 sections, and select a collector for each, who should weekly pay into the treasury; and, upon the faith of raising this annual sum, would borrow upon interest sufficient to raise a building to accommodate not more than 400 children of both sexes. Their payments of 2d. and 3d. per week would, within £50 per annum, support the school, while your annual offering would speedily liquidate the debt, and enable you to undertake a fresh field of usefulness. To this, in agricultural and some other districts, I would attach the preaching of the gospel on the Sabbath in these schools, to supply which the voice of the church should call upon one or more of its members to the work, believing that there exists a vast deal of energy and talent in our congregations that want to be brought into useful exercise. To this might be added adult schools, &c.; and not the least, a place in which to enlighten the public mind upon the evils resulting from the present connection of the church with the state."

"*But great caution* is requisite; and it would be melancholy to see the proceedings of a convention on so important a question weakened by intemperance and violence. There is, however, great danger. So few men (here I include myself), in the pursuit of great principles can distinguish the energy of strength from the energy of indignation; and thus many moderate men get alarmed, apprehensive that the proceedings will overstep the constitutional and Christian line. * * *Money* will be required, and probably more than we any of us anticipate. We must not think of a convention, without such measures as will *permanently* command some *respectable* portion of *the literature* and *the press* of our country, in its three kingdoms, and in its leading colonies. *Preparation* of an expensive and extensive character must precede the convention. Many of the great movements must be marked out, and the requisite information be obtained before the convention can be held with any prospect of converting the civilized world to the truth. With great caution, plenty of money, and adequate preparation, there is great hope of beginning the battle vigorously; but it is a deadly struggle for many who shall engage in it; and without earnest and importunate and persevering prayer for omnipotent aid, no movement should be thought of."

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

(From the *Bradford Observer*.)

The *Nonconformist*, which (although it once totally misapprehended us, and under that misapprehension ran foul of us) we cannot thus prominently mention without bearing testimony to its earnestness, and honesty, and ability, has repeatedly, since the abandonment of the Factories bill, urged the propriety of holding a convention of dissenters, for the purpose of maturing and organising the plan of an attack upon political or state churches. In its number of the 16th instant, it states that there is a probability that such a convention will be held shortly; and asks the opinion of its readers and others as to the desirableness of holding such a convention. Our opinion upon the principle involved in such a proposition shall be given very briefly.

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Looking at the present aspect of society; feeling convinced that organisation, in these days, is essential to the accomplishment of any great undertaking; and not wishing to conceal the fact, that a crusade against ecclesiastical establishments is a great undertaking, we can offer no objection to the holding of the proposed convention. But let those who move in such a matter take care to be "wise as serpents, harmless as doves."

Episcopalianism is the form of religion that is established in this country; but in attacking the establishment of that form of religion, let it be understood that we do not attack the form itself. All we wish is, that it should be put upon a level with the forms of all other religious denominations.

We have many and powerful reasons for wishing the disestablishment, not only of episcopalianism in England and Ireland, but of presbyterianism in Scotland. It is clear as day to every man who can and will see, that statesmen patronise religion, not because they believe it to be true, but because they find it useful as a state engine. This is a truth undeniable. Statesmen themselves do not attempt to deny it. But it is a melancholy truth. Such conduct is a prostitution of the best and holiest of things to the basest and most unworthy of purposes. In such conduct we find the best explanation of the practical atheism and infidelity of our age and country. A thing which in its nature is well calculated to bless mankind, and to restore something like primeval happiness and innocence to the world, has thus been neutralised, and in many instances converted into an absolute curse. Religion—the Christian religion, which is a thing essentially pure, and simple, and heavenly—which has no sympathy with the pomp, and grandeur, and gaudy vanities of the world; religion—the Christian religion, whose earliest messengers and ministers were the poorest of the poor, which is a thing addressed particularly to the poor, a thing which teaches man's common brotherhood, and man's common hope—this divine thing has been laid hold of by statesmen, and either bedecked in their draperies, or dragged like a captive at their chariot wheels! Hence, we say, the cold scepticism of the day; hence the practical heathenism of large masses of our population; hence the prevailing distrust, we might add, the prevailing contempt, of the professed ministers of religion, of all denominations. It were a god-like work to attempt to enfranchise such a thing from its degrading trammels; to separate it from the heartless schemes of trading politicians; to prove to the world that it is a thing as different from deceit, oppression, and cruelty, as light is different from darkness. We believe such a work to be possible; and holding such a faith, we can give a hearty assent to the proposed scheme of an anti-state-church convention alluded to and insisted upon by our able contemporary the *Nonconformist*.

(From the *Leeds Times*.)

We are glad to observe from the columns of our able contemporary, the *Nonconformist*, that it is proposed to hold a convention in the metropolis, on the question of a separation of church and state. A combined and vigorous movement, to follow up the defeat of the Factory Education bill, would be a great service at the present time. "A convention of dissenting delegates (says our contemporary) representing the community at large, and summoned to declare their principles and to organise a movement in their favour—a convention such as that which *we have now good ground for believing will be ere long called*—will lay open to immediate access all the seams and strata of interest in this question which lie unperceived beneath the inertness, or seeming unfaithfulness, of inconsistent leadership." We trust the proposed convention will succeed to the fullest extent.

(From the *Hull Rockingham*.)

The proposition for a general meeting of dissenters, to assemble speedily in the metropolis, appears to have met with almost universal approbation, and those who are taking an active part in making arrangements for so important an assembly, are sanguine as to its final results. The present state of ecclesiastical affairs renders it imperative on dissenters, of every denomination, to become more united, not merely for the sake of maintaining their privileges, but to co-operate in the dissemination of sound orthodox principles.

(From the *Leicester Mercury*.)

We are happy to find from the *Nonconformist* of Wednesday, that the idea of a conference on the question of separation of church and state is likely to be realised. Our able contemporary having invited correspondence upon the subject says:—"From the commencement of our labours until now, nothing has given us more heartfelt satisfaction than the prompt, general, and enthusiastic response given to our last week's invitation to dissenters, to furnish us with material out of which to form a correct judgment as to the propriety of convening a conference on the question of church and state. The number of letters we have received—the unanimity of opinion which their contents exhibit—the earnest tone of the writers—the wisdom characterising many of their suggestions—and the glimpses we have had, through these unobtrusive means, of wide ranges of opinion favourable to our object, hitherto overlooked, or hidden by intervening obstacles from public notice—serve to convince us that a large and sufficient portion of the conforming body are not only prepared, but eager to advance." In this information we rejoice; the plan proposed we thoroughly approve.

(From the *Glasgow Saturday Post*.)

Last week the NONCONFORMIST journal suggested to the adherents to nonconformist principles in all parts of the country the propriety of holding a convention, or general conference from their different sections, with the view of uniting for the redress of grievances common to them all. In particular, for the abolition of the monster establishments which now exist in the three kingdoms, to the prejudice of all Dissenters, and which are kept up at enormous expense, on the cost of those having no connection with them.

With every honest Dissenter who feels himself in conscience bound to withdraw from the Established Church, the continuation of a religious system which he conceives to be in error, at the expense of the state, ought only to be a question of time, and that time to expire so soon as those convinced of the church's errors are strong enough to overturn it. Such should be the sentiments of every sincere Dissenter who understands his principles; and, after the experience of the last six months, we think it expedient that the Dissenters should muster, and if they still be too few to overthrow the state establishment, they should at least count their numbers.

From the irresistible stand now taken in Ireland against the church, as the worst of all grievances, a great portion of our legislators seem convinced that there is no way in which that leviathan system which swallows its millions can be preserved, except by giving an equal bonus to the clergy of the Roman Church to keep them quiet. To their credit the priesthood of the Church of Rome refuse such a proposal; but strong as the feelings against the receipt of state pay may be by that respectable body, we should think there can be little doubt but the Protestant Dissenters would feel still stronger repugnance against such iniquitous proposals.

This, then, is one important reason why the Dissenting interest of the country should assemble and speak out. It is necessary that the unprincipled statesmen (pretended Liberals, too,) who have proposed to perpetuate one grievance by creating another, should be taught that the time for suppressing the claims of the people by bribing their spiritual teachers, is gone by. The Dissenters of the three kingdoms should not lose an hour they can avoid in informing the ignorant representatives who depend on them for their places, that their complaint is not against the mere establishments that exist, but against the establishment or preference over another, of any one sect whatever.

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With these feelings we have hailed with satisfaction the announcement in the NONCONFORMIST of this week, that the proposal for a conference has been heartily responded to by the English Dissenters, and that the response to the appeal made to them by that body, seems not to be confined to a prevention of further encroachments or a partial redress of grievances, but goes, as it ought to do, to the adoption of measures for the severance of all connection whatever between religion and the state, as the only safeguard by which religion in purity can exist.

We are aware that the adherents to the Free Church of Scotland will not be prepared to support this doctrine as yet; but let them but carefully consider their position, and we are convinced that, if they but do so, they will discover that the very state trammels which have driven them forth at this time, will always be imposed in one shape or another, and that the faithful discharge of Christian duty is incompatible with the state fetters which governments and parliaments will impose to suit themselves, in lieu of the advantages which their state pay confers.

(From the *Edinburgh Weekly Chronicle*.)

The NONCONFORMIST, with that zeal and ability for which it is remarkable, calls strongly for a convention of evangelical Dissenters to organise a system of aggressive warfare against church establishments. There are

many reasons, certainly, in favour of such a movement at the present moment, *would the Dissenters but move.* But we suspect they will do so only under the pressure of some apprehended attempt to come-church over them, as in the case of the abandoned Factories' Education Bill. Such a pressure will probably be again applied ere long; for the episcopal dignitaries, though foiled for the time, are not likely to sit contentedly under their defeat. They will drive on the ministry to make another attempt to put the necks of Dissenters under their feet, and then will be the time to hold an anti-state church convention!

CHURCH RATES AT KETTERING.—Several persons having been distrained upon for church rates, their goods were, amidst no small confusion, sold on the 17th of June. The Rev. J. Jenkinson having denounced the seizure as robbery, summonses were a month afterwards taken out against him and others, but the case for the prosecution broke down. On Thursday last, the 24th inst, the churchwardens having called a vestry for the purpose of granting them another rate, Mr Francis Taylor, a dissenter, was unanimously elected to the chair; and the churchwardens' books being found in an unbusiness-like state, the Rev. W. Robinson moved, and the Rev. J. Jenkinson seconded, that a committee of three persons be appointed to audit the churchwardens' accounts, and that the meeting adjourn until the 21st of September, at three o'clock, at which time the auditors shall present their report. On a division, the motion was carried by a large majority.

CHURCH RATES, SUDBURY.—We are enabled to furnish our readers, this week, with another instance of the glaring disregard of all law and propriety by which the Sudbury high church party have rendered themselves so notorious. Will it be believed that during the past week a warrant of distraint has been executed on the goods of Mr George Clark, baker, North street, for the same church rate (now so long since passed), out of which so many unjustifiable proceedings arose against the defaulters to it, as recorded in our columns several months since? Our readers will be astonished to find too that this warrant has been executed at the instance of the former churchwardens now out of office, and whose accounts were submitted to the vestry meeting last Easter, and there and then passed and closed. Indeed, such was the state of things that the new churchwardens then chosen declined altogether to have anything to do with the last rate or its arrears; they accepted office only on the understanding that everything (to use their own words) "should begin afresh." And yet one of the churchwardens, who then went out of office, has been permitted, under the names of two magistrates, to proceed, even so late as last week, against a defaulter to that very rate which the present churchwardens have discarded and repudiated! We hear that a meeting of some of the fellow-townsmen of Mr Clark has been called to deliberate on the steps to be taken in his defence; we should certainly advise the parties implicated in the business to return the goods seized, before legal proceedings be instituted against them, as they would cut but a sorry figure in the courts of law, in attempting to defend such a case. The amount of the rate charged against Mr Clark was 9s., for which a sack of seconds flour, valued at £2 10s., has been taken away! A surer method of bringing ruin on the establishment could not be adopted by its infatuated adherents at Sudbury.—*Suffolk Chronicle.*

ALDERMAN GIBBS AND THE PARISH ACCOUNTS.—On Thursday a vestry of the united parishes of St Stephen's, Walbrook, and St Benet Sherehog, was held for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of cleansing and repairing this beautiful structure. Alderman Gibbs, perpetual churchwarden, took the chair. Mr T. Brandram of Sise lane, the oldest householder of the district, remarked that there existed in his parish a very strong feeling that there was a sufficiency of funds applicable to the repairs of the church, and inquired of Alderman Gibbs if there were any? Alderman Gibbs replied, that he knew of no funds specifically for that purpose. Mr Jones, vestry-clerk of St Benet Sherehog, adverted to the record in "Stow's London," in which, so long ago as 1633, it was stated that £100 per annum was then left for the adornment and repairs of the church, for the supplying a house for the minister, and the remainder "goeth to the poor." This fund had increased to £720 per annum. There had, in addition, so long ago as 1801, been £500 invested in the funds, from a freehold having been sold by the trustees to the late alderman of the ward, Mr Atkins, and for upwards of forty years there had been no account of this large revenue published. He, on behalf of a large portion of the parishioners, now called for cash accounts from Alderman Gibbs, who had long been perpetual churchwarden, and perpetual treasurer. Member after member of the vestry followed Mr Jones, corroborating his views, until at last the alderman, finding that, except his vestry-clerk, he enlisted very little of the sympathy of the meeting, intimated "that, if not pressed, he might show the accounts demanded." The vestry were not, however, induced by this promise to vote the required sum for repairs, and the meeting was adjourned *sine die.*

SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE.—An esteemed correspondent in Wales sends us the following gratifying and interesting communication:—"I was at Liverpool on the 10th inst, and there met some nonconformist friends, amongst whom were some dissenting ministers. It was there proposed by some of the party that North Wales should be divided into four districts, and that, in each district, some influential laymen should be fixed upon—to the number of six, if possible—so that there might be one person to each county. It would be the part of these nonconformist laymen to correspond with some influential person in every parish in his district, in order to call a meeting in each parish in North Wales, to take into consideration the oppression of the state church in all its branches. At each meeting it was proposed that every parish should elect one (or more) delegate, to attend a conference which would be held in some central town in North Wales, in January or February next, there to meet the Editor of the *Nonconformist*, and some other of our English friends who may favour us with their presence and assistance, and then and there to form a plan which would appear to the conference most likely to command the attention of government."

The Rev. Charles Henry Barham, with his attendants (says the *Carlisle Journal*), arrived at Appleby castle on Monday last, where he intends staying during the shooting season.

THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH IN IRELAND.—The following is an extract from the probate of wills, as presented in the house of Commons, by Mr Grattan, July 12, 1832:—

Fowler, Archbishop of Dublin, left	£150,000
Beresford, Archbishop of Tuam, left	250,000
Agar, Archbishop of Cashel, left	400,000
Stopford, Bishop of Cork, left	25,000
Percy, Bishop of Drome, left	40,000
Cleaver, Bishop of Ferns, left	50,000
Bernard, Bishop of Limerick, left	60,000
Porter, of Clogher, left	250,000
Hawkins, of Raphoe, left	250,000
Knox, of Kilaloe, left	100,000
Total	£1,575,000

Besides maintaining their wives and families during life.

The report of the commissioners state that in Ireland there are 151 parishes having no member of the church of England, and 860 parishes having less than 77 protestants.

Parliamentary grants since the union in 1800:—

For building protestant churches	£525,377
For building glebe houses there	336,881
For protestant charity schools	1,105,869
For Church society to discountenance vice	101,991
For Kildare Place society	170,508
Total	£2,310,626

PROGRESS OF PUSEYISM.—A return has just been made of the number of clergymen in England. The number considerably exceeds 13,000, among whom it is supposed there are from 9,000 to 10,000 whose views are more or less deeply tinged with tractarianism. We have reason to believe that the question as to whether or not the principles held by Dr Pusey and his disciples are in accordance with the rubric and canons of the church will, in the course of a few months, be brought before the proper ecclesiastical tribunals. Of course it were unseemly to anticipate what the decision of these tribunals will be, but so thoroughly persuaded are most of the evangelical clergy that the decision will affirm the legality of tractarianism, that many of their numbers are already beginning to prepare for seceding from the establishment. They feel that if Puseyism be once declared to be in consonance with the rubric and the canons, they must either relinquish and leave the church, or sacrifice their principles by remaining within her pale. A very large number have already resolved on embracing the former alternative, and some of them are, we are assured, beginning to look out for places in which to preach when they are thus compelled to leave their churches. Dr Candlish, one of the leaders of the Scottish secession, referred to this impending disruption of the English establishment, when addressing nearly 3,000 people, in Surrey chapel, on Friday evening. He said we are about to witness the same scenes in England, on a much larger scale, as those which have so recently occurred in Scotland. It is impossible to form any idea of the number that will, in the supposed contingency, secede from the church of England; but if all those who have written or spoken against Puseyism, or who hold evangelical opinions, resign their livings rather than sacrifice their principles, the number of seceders cannot be under 2,000.—*Observer.*

CHEAP BIBLES.—We observe Dr Thomson is in Ireland, introducing the cheap bibles of the Scottish board, with his accustomed zeal and energy, and with great success.

FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

The *Banner of Ulster*, the organ of the Irish presbyterians in the north, contains the following remarkable statement:—"We understand that, although a number of ministers have gone from Ireland to aid their brethren in Scotland, the demand for increased labourers still continues. Invitations have been addressed to an additional number of Irish ministers, and it is hoped that they will proceed to Scotland without delay. The calls upon the brethren in Scotland are every day increasing, in consequence of applications from new localities to have congregations organised in them. The work is proceeding beyond all expectations; and, if ministers can only be obtained to visit the various places from which urgent requests are made for them, the free church will speedily be established throughout the whole of Scotland. Ministers who go from Ireland are employed to supply the pulpits of those in Scotland who go out to itinerate and organise new congregations."

At a meeting at Perth last week, Dr Chalmers said, that while the number of seceding ministers was about 470, seven hundred and eighty congregations had been formed in connexion with the free church, for whom it was necessary to make provision, while there was every reason to suppose that, betimes, the demand for churches would become even greater.

THE SYNOD OF ORIGINAL SECEDERS.—This reverend court met on Tuesday, the 15th, and was opened with a sermon by the Rev. James Anderson, of Carluke, their former moderator, from Isaiah liii. 1. The Rev. George Hill, of Shotts, was chosen moderator. Among other business, the synod entered on the consideration of their relation to the free church of Scotland; and found that, in consequence of the late disruption, and the noble testimony given by that church to principles which the synod have always deemed of vital importance, the two bodies have been brought into a new and interesting relation to each other. After long and serious deliberation, the synod agreed, almost unanimously, to appoint a committee, with instructions to confer with any committee that might be appointed by the assembly of the free church on this subject. The synod translated the Rev. William Matthews from Dunning to Ballylintagh, in Ireland.

Correspondence.

WHY AM I A DISSENTER?

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR—Amidst the confusion and bustle caused by the debates of political, religious, and commercial parties of the present day, it may not be deemed an unfit opportunity just to brush away the dust and rubbish that is accumulating around us, and hiding from our view the ground we are standing upon. Let us for a moment examine the basis, the foundation upon which as dissenters we build our opinions, and rest our principles. I have heard it said by many nonconformists (though, sir, not by your *Nonconformist*) that, were the gospel preached in its simplicity and purity in the establishment, there would be no necessity for dissent; and that, had such been the case, we should not have heard of those heart-burnings excited by the imposition of church rates, and the vexatious measures adopted to enforce the payment of them. Such persons forget the unholy alliance existing between church and state. They lose sight of the fact that, as Christ has said, "My kingdom is not of this world," it is utterly impossible for man to link it to mundane affairs, or bring it under the sway of an earthly monarch. Myriads frequent the parish church simply because they have been brought up to go there; but were they asked *why* they did so, they would reply, like Thomas Gosling, "Because my father, Richard Gosling, and Mary Broadfoot, his wife, were married and buried at church, and because I was baptised, and thereby made a member of Christ, the child of God, and an inheritor of the kingdom of heaven: I was confirmed by the bishop, and as all was made right then, I hope it is so now."

Such, I have no doubt, would be about as reasonable as the reply, in substance, though not in words, of thousands who regularly attend our dissenting places of worship. A numerous class indeed is that of those, both in the establishment and out of it, who "never had a dozen thoughts in all their life, and never changed their course, and never had an unbelieving doubt—lived where their fathers lived, died where they died." So little do men in general care about investigating things for themselves; they are content to take things as they are, rather than seek to make them what they ought to be, so long as their pockets are untouched, though we are plainly commanded to "search the scriptures," to "prove all things, and hold fast that which is good." The multitude appears, as the author of Hudibras says,

> "To build their faith upon
> The holy text of pike and gun;
> Decide all controversies by
> Infallible artillery,
> And prove their doctrine orthodox
> By apostolic blows and knocks."

But taking our standing upon the rock of truth, the Bible, which is alone the religion of protestants, I take it, and read in its sacred pages, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and thy neighbour as thyself." I look at the principles of a state religion, and there do I see this royal law of love systematically set at nought; for, instead of being instructed to love our neighbours, we are there taught, that to oppress, distrain, persecute, and imprison them, is to be doing God service. I look into the scriptures again, and read, "Not many wise, not many mighty after the flesh, are called." I look at "mother church," and find not only those parties called, but taken; and, as by some species of spiritual legerdemain, they are made members of Christ, &c., &c., confirmed in this by one of her priests, and in awful consistency, however wickedly they may have lived, they are buried in a "sure and certain hope of a glorious resurrection."

Much, very much might be advanced upon the subject, and numerous arguments used in support of dissent, but as you, Mr Editor, are every week unfolding on your first page some lovely feature of the voluntary principle, the obverse of which may be found in our high places, I will not intrude further upon your valuable space, but in conclusion would urge upon church members and congregations generally to examine the matter for themselves, so that they may be able to render a reason why they do not choose to go with the thoughtless to the established church, to be hoodwinked through time, until precipitated into a dreadful eternity. But we strongly recommend for their perusal your excellent journal (a paper, which could I cause to be, should be circulated in every family throughout the United Kingdom), also the Rev. J. A. James's "Church Member's Guide;" "Apostolical Independency;" Scales's "Principles of Dissent," &c., &c.; books from the perusal of which they would rise better satisfied with themselves for their nonconformity, and less disposed to think there is so much uncharitable feeling exhibiting in the minds of those of their more enlightened neighbours, who, in the warmth of a holy zeal, are led to exclaim loudly against the monstrosities of an act-of-parliament religion, and who advocate and petition for the separation of church and state. I am, yours truly,

Banbury, Aug. 15th, 1843. NONCON.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—The *Times* of the 17th instant, in their report on the state of Wales, having circulated a report prejudicial to the character of the dissenters, I shall feel much

obliged by your giving publicity to the following letter, addressed to the editor of the *Times*, contradicting the report in question.

I remain, sir,
Your obedient servant,
St Clears, August 23rd, 1843. J. ROGERS.

To the Editor of the Times.

SIR—Having seen in your paper of the 17th instant, a report of the state of South Wales, and, speaking of dissenters, you say that, "at the first commencement of these outrages, the farmers met the landlords for the purpose of discussing the question at St Clears, and there a dissenting minister was the spokesman of the Rebeccaites, and at this meeting every man of the farmers refused to be sworn in a special constable, till this dissenting minister, being pressed to it, consented to come forward; when about fifty of his congregation followed his example immediately." Now the whole of this statement is entirely void of truth. In the first place no such meeting ever took place here, and no such circumstances as those stated by you ever transpired; and further, the report carries on the face of it the greatest absurdity, as the landlords had not the power to swear in special constables—this was a duty that devolved on the civil power.

There was a meeting held at the Blue Boar inn, St Clears, on the 13th February last (*vide* report in the *Welshman*, 17th February) which was attended by a great many magistrates, and other influential gentlemen of the county, and a few farmers. If the report in question has any reference to this meeting, it is as far from the truth as the other. This meeting was convened by the magistrates to take into consideration the state of the country, and for devising means to restore peace and order, and not "a meeting of landlords and farmers to discuss the question of outrages."

Several gentlemen addressed this meeting. Amongst the number, the Rev. Joseph Williams, of Bethlehem, a dissenting minister. This gentleman suggested the propriety of dispensing with the services of the military and police here. The suggestion was taken into consideration by the magistrates, and after a short consultation, an order was given to dismiss the military and pensioners, but to retain the police; and this order was immediately carried into effect. The farmers were now called upon to be sworn in as special constables, and having had the duty explained to them, all present came forward without hesitation and were sworn in, perhaps to the number of fifty or sixty; and a great many others were called upon the next day for a similar purpose.

No spokesman attended for the Rebeccaites at this meeting. Mr Williams was not asked to be sworn in a special constable. He did not go forward with fifty of his congregation. There was no refusal or reluctance on the part of any one to be sworn in that I could see.

So much for the truth of the statement contained in your report, and I shall feel much obliged by your giving publicity to this letter in the *Times*. I was present at all the meetings held here, and am well acquainted with all that transpired.

I remain, sir, your very obedient servant,
St Clears, Aug. 22nd, 1843. JAMES ROGERS.

P.S.—Since writing the above, I have seen the Rev. Mr Williams, who states that he was particularly requested by the Rev. John Evans, J.P., and chairman of the petty sessions, St Clears, and by Walter R. H. Powell, Esq., of Maesgwynne, to attend the meeting on the 13th of February last at St Clears.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MISCELLANEOUS.

COLONEL STODDART AND CAPTAIN CONOLLY.—In reply to Mr A. B. Cochrane, on Thursday, Sir R. Peel said that government had not received any direct official account confirming the report that the Ameer of Bokhara had cruelly murdered these officers; but he had no reason to doubt that those officers had been barbarously murdered on the 17th of June, 1842, by the Ameer of Bokhara. He thought the hon. gentleman would not press him as to what measures it would be thought necessary to adopt in the circumstances of this case. The Emperor of Russia had refused, since this murder, to have any communication with Bokhara; and the Sultan had followed the same line of conduct. He did not despair, however, of yet taking steps to punish this atrocious deed.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.—Sir James Graham obtained leave to bring in a bill for the subdivision and endowment of large and populous parishes in Scotland, which, he said, he hoped would restore religious peace and give strength to the established church of that country. The bill was subsequently brought in, and read a first time, and ordered to be printed.

PUBLIC CATHEDRALS.—In reply to a question from Mr Ewart, as to any probability of the cathedrals being thrown open to public inspection, Sir Robert Peel said he had no authority in the matter, and could only express his own strong opinion in reference to it. He could only state that, for the purpose of protecting property from any injury which might arise from the admission of the public, the government would lend the assistance of the police, and every aid in their power, to obviate the objections that had been made to the suggestions on this subject; and he should have thought, after the example of throwing open the cartoons without charge, from which not the slightest injury had arisen, it would be considered that free access might be allowed without the apprehension of any mischievous consequences, and that where the admission was unrestricted the public would themselves act as a police, as was exemplified in the cases of the British museum and the cartoons.

SPAIN.—In answer to Mr C. Hindley, Sir R. Peel said it was not convenient, under the present circumstances, to give any information as to the intentions of government with respect to the present state of affairs in Spain. All he could now say was, that care would be taken that British interests in that country should have due protection.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

This ceremony took place on Thursday afternoon. Her Majesty proceeded in state along the royal line of route, from Buckingham palace to the houses of parliament, for the purpose of closing the session in person. The weather, which had been gloomy all the morning, cleared up at noon, and the sun shone out cheeringly upon her Majesty and the numbers of her loyal subjects who thronged the park and streets leading to the entrance of the house of Lords commanding a view of the royal procession. Her Majesty arrived about a quarter before two o'clock, in the state carriage, accompanied by Prince Albert, the Duchess of Buccleuch, &c. Her arrival was announced by the firing of cannon and the acclamations of the assembled multitude. Her Majesty was preceded by the Duke of Wellington, bearing the sword of state; the Duke of Buccleuch, bearing the royal crown on a velvet cushion; and the Earl of Shaftesbury, bearing the cap of maintenance. She was received at the house of Lords by the great officers of state, and having robed, entered the house of Lords, and on taking her seat on the throne, directed the house of Commons to be summoned to the bar. Shortly after the members of the lower house, headed by the Speaker, appeared at the bar. The chair of the Prince of Wales was placed on the right of that of her Majesty, and at an equal distance on the left, and on the same platform as the Prince of Wales's chair, was the chair of his Royal Highness Prince Albert. Her Majesty's chair of state appeared to be slightly elevated above them.

The SPEAKER, addressing her Majesty, presenting a bill which closed the supplies for the year. He then informed her that the house of Commons had considered several important measures, and had passed one for healing the divisions relating to the church of Scotland, and also a measure for the endowment of churches in populous districts. He concluded, "Although during the present session we have passed fewer measures of permanent interest than during the last, yet we can assure your Majesty that at no former time have your Majesty's faithful Commons been more assiduously engaged; and our labours will be amply repaid if they conduce to the permanency of the constitution, and the happiness and contentment of the people." Several bills then received the royal assent.

Her Majesty then, having received the copy of the speech from the Lord Chancellor, read that document as follows:—

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"The state of public business enables me to close this protracted session, and to release you from further attendance on your parliamentary duties.

"I thank you for the measures you have adopted for enabling me to give full effect to the several treaties which I have concluded with foreign powers.

"I have given my cordial assent to the bill which you presented to me for increasing the means of spiritual instruction in populous parishes, by making a portion of the revenues of the church available for the endowment of additional ministers.

"I confidently trust that the wise and benevolent intentions of the legislature will be aided by the zeal and liberality of my subjects—and that better provision will thus be made for public worship, and for pastoral superintendence in many districts of the country.

"I view with satisfaction the passing of the act for removing doubts respecting the jurisdiction of the church of Scotland in the admission of ministers, and for securing to the people and to the courts of the church the full exercise of their respective rights.

"It is my earnest hope that this measure will tend to restore religious peace in Scotland, and to avert the dangers which have threatened a sacred institution of the utmost importance to the happiness and welfare of that part of my dominions.

"I continue to receive from all foreign powers assurances of their friendly disposition, and of their earnest desire for the maintenance of peace.

"GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

"I thank you for the readiness and liberality with which you have voted the supplies for the current year. It will be my constant object to combine a strict regard to economy with the consideration which is due to the exigencies of the public service.

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"In some districts of Wales the public peace has been interrupted by lawless combinations and disturbances, unconnected with political causes. I have adopted the measures which I deemed best calculated for the repression of outrage, and for the detection and punishment of the offenders.

"I have, at the same time, directed an inquiry to be made into the circumstances which have led to insubordination and violence in a part of the country usually distinguished for good order and willing obedience to the law.

"I have observed, with the deepest concern, the persevering efforts which are made to stir up discontent and disaffection among my subjects in Ireland, and to excite them to demand a repeal of the legislative union.

"It has been, and ever will be, my earnest desire to administer the government of that country in a spirit of strict justice and impartiality; and to co-operate with parliament in effecting such amendments in the existing laws as may tend to improve the social condition, and to develop the natural resources of Ireland.

"From a deep conviction that the legislative union is not less essential to the attainment of these objects than to the strength and stability of the empire, it is my firm determination, with your support, and under the blessing of Divine Providence, to maintain inviolate that great bond of connexion between the two countries.

"I have forborne from requiring any additional powers for the counteraction of designs hostile to the concord and welfare of my dominions, as well from my unwillingness to distrust the efficacy of the ordinary law, as from my reliance on the good sense and patriotism of my people, and on the solemn declarations of parliament in support of the legislative union.

"I feel assured that those of my faithful subjects, who have influence and authority in Ireland, will discourage, to the utmost of their power, a system of pernicious agitation, which disturbs the industry, and retards the improvement of that country, and excites feelings of mutual distrust and animosity between different classes of my people."

The parliament was then declared prorogued by the Lord Chancellor; and the royal party returned, in the same order as they had set out, to Buckingham palace.

The Complete Suffrage Movement.

The council of the National Complete Suffrage Union held their usual weekly meeting at 37, Waterloo street, Birmingham, on Monday, when letters were read from friends and correspondents in Plymouth, Chapmanslade, Northampton, Wednesbury, Leamington, Perth, Markinch, Leicester, London, and Manchester.

Those from Perth, Wednesbury, and Leamington, intimated an intention, on the part of a number of complete suffragists in these towns, to form complete suffrage associations.

From the communications read from Mr Thomas Beggs, now visiting several districts in the midland counties in furtherance of the suffrage movement, it appeared that he had been most kindly and encouragingly received in Northampton, Wellingboro, &c., and that every assistance was being given to him in order to facilitate his progress. In one or two cases Mr Beggs had given public lectures on the general question of complete suffrage, which were well attended, and held conversational meetings, which were also of a gratifying character.

From Mr Vincent a letter was read, dated Plymouth, August 26, giving a most satisfactory account of his progress in the west. Large and enthusiastic meetings had been held at Truro, Falmouth, Devonport, besides several he had held in Cornwall since the date of his previous letter to the council. "My faith in the principles," says Mr Vincent, "grows daily."

A draft of an address to the municipal electors of the kingdom was read, and laid on the table till next meeting.

COMPLETE SUFFRAGE SOIREE AT LEICESTER.

(*Condensed from the Leicestershire Mercury.*)

On Tuesday evening, the soirée, announced by the Committee of the Leicester Complete Suffrage Association, took place in the New Hall, Leicester; when between 400 and 500 persons sat down to tea. The highest degree of sociality and good feeling appeared to prevail. Among the gentlemen present from other towns were Mr Sturge, Colonel Perronet Thompson, Mr Miall, the Rev. W. Linwood, of Mansfield; Mr Herbert Spencer, of Derby; Mr Thomas Beggs, of Nottingham; the Rev. H. Toller, of Market Harborough, &c. &c. After tea, members of the Association were admitted on showing their tickets, the gallery was opened, and the hall presented a very animated appearance. On the motion of the Rev. Henry Toller, of Harborough, seconded by Mr Manning, Mr John Collier (Chairman of the Committee of the Leicester Association) was called upon to preside.

The CHAIRMAN after a few introductory observations, read letters, in reply to invitations, from Messrs. Cobden and Bright, as follows:—

"London, Aug. 16, 1843.

"Sir,—I am sorry that other engagements will prevent my having the pleasure of meeting Col. Thompson and Mr Sturge, at your soirée, on Tuesday the 22d inst.

"I am, sir, yours respectfully,

"Cyrus R. Edmonds, Esq." "RICHARD COBDEN.

"London, 8 mo. 16, 1843.

"C. R. Edmonds,

"Respected Friend,—I must decline having the gratification of being at your soirée on the 22d inst. My engagements on the question I am more immediately connected with render it impossible for me to take an active part on any other question which may require long labour to work out. The day following that of your meeting I am compelled to be at Worcester, and a large meeting to be held in London before we leave town is yet unfixed, but may not improbably interefere with your day.

"I am sure I wish most sincerely that public opinion may advance in your direction, and I think the exposition of the existing evils made by the League is tending greatly to produce that result.

"I am obliged by the invitation forwarded to me, and am respectfully,

"Thy friend,

"JOHN BRIGHT."

MR EDMONDS then read a letter from Mr Gisborne, the member for Nottingham, who was prevented attending by business engagements. The following is an extract:—

"I can assure my friends at Leicester of two things—first, that I have a lively—and though defeated—a gratifying recollection of the struggle in which I was engaged with them at the last general election; and second, that not a single night has passed during my attendance in Parliament in the present session, in which my convictions of the necessity of a thorough and impartial reform of our system of suffrage have not been strengthened. The real truth is that the first object of our legislation, whether it be social, fiscal, or political, is not the good of the great mass of the inhabitants of the country. I do not believe that a single M.P. is otherwise than desirous of benefitting the people; but four out of five are determined, and indeed almost obliged, to serve some other class first, and to take care of some other interest, before they take care of the interest of the people; and it is for this simple reason, that they are returned to Parliament by some other class, and not by the people. I never met with a man yet, who was conjuror enough to tell me how this was to be remedied, except by giving the people a fair share in electing those who ought to represent them. Till some one convinces me that the evils which I have stated above do not exist, or shows me some other means by which they may be removed, I must continue to be an advocate for a complete suffrage. I am sure that the principle that every member of a society should have a share in making the rules and regulations of the society is the fairest, and I have never seen or heard anything which has made me doubt that it is the safest principle. I believe it to be very dangerous to have a vast numerical majority included in your society, and to say to them 'You are not good enough, or wise enough, or rich enough to have anything to do in our social arrangements.'

"I hope to see these Conservative principles more generally diffused, and shall, therefore, rejoice in the success of your patriotic efforts.

"Dear sir, your obliged and faithful servant,

"C. R. Edmonds, Esq." "T. Gisborne.

Mr T. Duncombe also regretted that he could not attend.

The Chairman then gave the first sentiment, "Mr Sturge, and the equal political rights of all classes, which he is labouring to secure."

Mr Sturge then rose amid loud cheers, and said that those friends present who had met him before on similar occasions would know that he was not in his place in making speeches at public meetings. But he could not resist the invitation of the kind friends at Leicester, who are seeking the religious, social, and political equality of their brethren, to be present on that interesting occasion. If he could allay the prejudices of a single individual, his speech would not have been in vain. If there were any present who thought the principles of the Complete Suffrage Union unsound, or that they went too far, he would ask them candidly to look at what they asked for—that every man should have a voice in making the laws which he is bound to obey; that there should be a full, fair, and free representation of the people. He had felt often great surprise how any person, professing that religion which teaches them to be just, and to do to others as they would others should do to them, could hesitate to recommend these principles—(Cheers). On a late occasion, when Sir James Graham brought forward his Education Bill, they found the middle classes rising as almost one man to oppose that measure. They could view with indifference the sufferings of others, but when a rose was taken from their own bosom, a lamb from their own fold, then they were roused into active exertion—(Hear, hear). They were alarmed at the interference of the State Church in education; the measure was not carried into effect, but, let them remember, it might be carried into effect another session; it was only postponed. Mr Sturge then briefly discussed the various points adopted by the Complete Suffrage Union, and demonstrating their value and necessity. He briefly reviewed the conduct of the professed people's representatives during the recent session of Parliament, and noticed the contempt and indifference with which all measures for their benefit were received by the House, especially Sharman Crawford's motion for a full, fair, and free representation of the people. He had watched the progress of events during the last twelve months, and he thought that if twenty men, determined to stand by each other, and representing the principles of complete suffrage, were returned to the House of Commons, by bringing forward motions that that House does not represent the people, and, therefore, had no right to legislate for or tax the people—(loud cheers)—he believed, if we had twenty such men in the House, they would be able, not only to break up the present ministry, but to prevent any other being formed except it was chosen by the voice of the people—(Cheers). What he wanted to see done by their associations was to try to return such men; and in their anxiety to do that he hoped they would allow of no compromise or equivocation. He contested a neighbouring borough some time since, and the legal expenses were but small; yet, without wishing to throw the slightest blame on any of the friends there, he would state that there were some expenses incurred, of which had he known he would not have entered on the contest. He mentioned that to show how small an expense need be incurred. Mr Sturge concluded with an appeal to the middle classes, and sat down amid loud cheers.

The Chairman next gave, "The prosperity and extension of Complete Suffrage Associations, and may they be speedily rendered unnecessary by the attainment of the great objects they propose," and called upon Mr Thomas Beggs, of Nottingham.

Mr Beggs said—"I am glad to see that there is a rising public opinion in favour of complete suffrage. I have for a length of time observed the aspect of political parties, and it is cheering to find that, though there is a strong feeling rising up against the present ministry, there is not the least feeling in favour of the imbecile party who preceded them, and it becomes obvious that the country are determined to have men who are not pledged to their expediency doctrines—(Hear, hear). If the experience of the last two sessions had not been enough, the whole conduct of the Whigs had disgusted the nation, for a more despicable faction were never in opposition; and the only prospect for us now is to see Lord John Russell, Sir Robert Peel, and Sir James Graham fairly united. Let us once have our enemies before us, and we shall know what we have to contend against." He then answered some of the objections entertained against complete suffrage, gave a short history of the recent elections at Nottingham, and the disgraceful conduct of both Whigs and Tories. In referring to Mr Sturge's election he said, "There has been an action brought against John Walter by Feargus O'Connor, and, in justice to the latter, as well as in explanation of Mr Sturge's remark, I must be allowed to make one observation. It was alleged that Mr O'Conner wanted £28 for his services. When Mr O'Connor went down to Nottingham he was unsolicited to do so by Mr Sturge's friends; but this was the more to his own credit. Those who have objected—and there were many who objected to our allying ourselves with that party—should remember that it was notorious, at that very election when John Walter was returned, no alliance was rejected by his party; and it is a new thing in the morality of elections to refuse assistance from any parties who may give it. Mr O'Connor paid all his own expenses, but he did ask of the committee £27 10s. to pay the expenses of a number of men who came at *his* invitation to assist in carrying out the election there. This payment was objected to by the committee, who said they had nothing to do with it; and I took it to several gentlemen who said, 'This has nothing to do with the committee—we will subscribe it amongst us;' and in that manner the money was raised and paid to Mr O'Connor"—(Hear, hear).

The Chairman then gave "The speedy return of Colonel Thompson, and a large number of men of similar principles to the Parliament of this country"—(Cheers).

Colonel Thompson said—My first duty is to try to deepen the impresssion made by preceding speakers, of the necessity which brings you here, and the increased demand for your exertions. Misery does not seem to have come to you: you are not of the class who suffer, at least in person. I see before me one plain of happy faces. At all events you bar one objection the adversary is fond of throwing out against such as take your side: that you want to gain something by confusion. When I was a boy we lived in fears of French invasion; and there was in the parish one bad subject, as there always is, and he was heard to say "I wish the French would come, I would have a good cow of somebody's"—(Laughter). There is not an individual here who looks as if he wanted a good cow of anybody's. It is not that we despise the poor and needy, but we are aware they do not possess the requisite power, and, therefore, it is that we rejoice when we see those in our ranks who possess power, because we know it is a promise of a more speedy removal of the evils under which we suffer—(Cheers). But you need not look far, even if you are happy yourselves, to see where misery is. If things go on, we shall all be eaten up alive, by the miserable that are made—(Loud cheering). It was only yesterday, that when my family went into dinner, they found a man behind the door, who jumped out at the window, and ran away. He was taken after a run of a quarter of a mile, and had the silver off the dinner table in his pocket. As usual, he pleaded that he was starving. Now, here is a man, who, by the withering institutions of the country—(loud cheering)—under which we were born, but under which we would not die—(prolonged cheering, with rising up, and waving of handkerchiefs)—had probably been driven from every attempt to gain an honest livelihood, and forced to take up the dangerous and discreditable vocation of a thief. It was not he that did it, it was those that made him—(Cheers). This comes of allowing one set of people to make laws for their own pockets; laws which are to rob you and me and everybody, for the sake of putting one half into their own purses, and spilling the other by the way—(Cheering). See how they do elsewhere. It was but in to-day's paper I saw the following anecdote:—You know that in one part of this country there is an agitation about turnpikes—(Hear, hear). A medical man passed through a turnpike in a gig, and was charged eightpence. "And why am I charged eightpence?" asked the doctor. "It is there, by an Act of Parliament," said the turnpike woman, pointing to the board; "it is because your gig has two wheels; if it had four it would be sixpence"—(Laughter). "And what can be the reason of such a law as that?" "It is," said the turnpike woman, "because the two squires in our neighbourhood drive four-wheeled gigs"—(Roars of laughter). And thus it is throughout. Depend on it from me they get no "honey mouth"—hear, hear)—not one word shall they have in the way of compliment to their hospitality;—"light come, light go," is an ancient proverb—but why did they steal my silver spoons, or cause them to be stolen?—(Continued cheering.) I stand here as a man who has lived and moved in their own class, and so standing, I tell them bluntly, that it is from a base and dishonourable regard to their own foul interests, and nothing else, that they inflict these things upon us. Hear their own account of the matter; they have got marriage portions to pay to their daughters—(Laughter and cheers). Who knows but the man who stole my silver spoons had a daughter to portion?—(Continued cheering). Are there any other men, in any other place, who would commit themselves to such an avowal of their intent to plunder us? They say nobody must make laws for us but they and theirs; and then they go and legislate for their four-wheeled gigs—(Laughter and cheers). And it would be well if this were all. But it is well known that the laws are made for the purpose of putting gain in the pockets of one class at the expense of all the rest—(Hear, hear). And see the system by which they maintain themselves in this; which is, in fact, the main thing you are come here to attack. Their whole code of laws upon election is but one mass of provisions to make a legislative assembly, not the arena of struggles for the public good, but the house of call where dishonest men may meet and ascertain how much of injustice can safely be inflicted—(Cheers). The way in which it has been the pleasure of friends to word this resolution, would be my excuse for bringing my own experience before you; but it will do as well to put the case of our friend John Bright—(Cheering). Here is a petition brought against him, as there was against me, stuffed with every charge (known to be falsehood from the beginning) of bribery, intimidation, and every crime that can be acted at an election by mortal man. I should not wonder if it alleged, "that he, being a sturdy Quaker, on divers persons, with force and arms, assault and battery did then and there commit"—(Loud laughter and cheers). You see the plan; if he or I should withdraw from such a contest to escape being robbed, then the purposed cry is, that we have acknowledged all, assault and battery included—(Cheers and laughter). You perceive that we are nailed to the stake, there to abide the process of being "laid down and robbed at the door of the House of Commons," as I was. And when we go on, the moment the adversary is asked for proof of his undoubted falsehoods, he can withdraw, with the gratification of having put us to almost any expense he chooses in the interval. In this manner it cost my children ten pounds (for it was they that felt it) for every day I sat in the House of Commons; and thus it is that dishonest legislators provide for punishing men who shall be rash enough to think of allowing you to send them to represent your interests. There is indeed a pretence (as there are pretences everywhere) of a power to declare a petition "frivolous and vexatious;" but I never knew it exercised, except against the liberals in a borough where I was asked myself to pay five pounds a head for a hundred votes, and lost the election for refusing. It is a common plot among the rich to keep things to themselves, as the means of making their riches richer. Our friend must make his way through this; and luckily he is both able himself and has friends to help him. There is no fear of John Bright. I began at an earlier period. He cannot fail to be of great service in that place; and I trust he is the beginning of a great inroad of such men as are wanted there. For all the conventionalisms which rule that House, not sixpence does he care—(Cheers). He has no caste to lose among them, for he never had any, except the caste of honest men, and that is nowhere—(Great cheering). When such a man appears there, it is a sign the jaw teeth of the enemy are beginning to be drawn. I see in him the commencement of a new race of men, holding out to us the certainty of our expectations being realised ere long. Wherever a party has made a strenuous effort in the cause of truth, they have always met with success; and if it has not at once crowned their efforts, it has laid a sure foundation, and shown that ultimate success is within their reach—(Cheers). I see the greatest military authority in the country said in the House of Lords last night, that the ten thousand pensioners are to be armed with muskets, lest the colliers should beat them. Poor men! I should think it very hard myself, if I were turned out to shoulder arms for the sake of eightpence a day—(Laughter). But such as you have nothing to fear from them. Those men, in the hot spirit of youth, quitted their homes and families, and have since returned to them with only an increased affection for you and your interests, from all they have seen in the interval; and now they are to be called out, warm with these feelings, for the sake of taking care of us. It is our men they have armed with muskets—(vociferous cheering); they are just a civic guard, turned out as you may view them at a fire or a wreck, to see that no good citizens take harm for want of countenance—(Laughter and cheering). Look again, to the kind of men who are gathering to your side. Those who are here I pass, by the rule of not speaking of present company; but look at Manchester. It is established and proved that no government, if they were wicked enough, dare attack an honest people seeking by honest means to secure the freedom of their country. Let us go on then with hope and confidence, taking every opportunity to advance our cause, and we shall put down that system in which one class were too proud and rich to consult the advantage of the poor; and then all shall be equally entitled to the care of the legislature—(Cheers). I wonder what that bishop thinks now who said "the poor had nothing to do with the laws but to obey them." They know better. They know that they suffer when the laws are bad laws—(hear, hear), and as this knowledge spreads our cause spreads. Is it not clearly our interest that these men should gain some portion of political power, and will not others as well as ourselves feel the benefit of that power?—(Hear, hear.) When once a principle like this is started it will roll on like the avalanche from the mountain top, until its force becomes irresistible; and the demand and power of a united people must secure a favourable termination to our contest. The days of dishonesty are numbered; for rich and poor are moving together to bring dishonesty to book. If I have been personally honoured by suffering loss and damage in this great cause, it would grieve my heart that it should sink into the ground, or be turned to anything but the means of making strength hereafter. And if I should ever regain the position I lost by being too early in the field, I should be ashamed if anything that has befallen me could shake the zeal with which I could serve you. Nothing would give me greater pleasure than to find myself engaged once more, with what ability may be left me, in the advancement of that cause which would be sanctified by being your own—(The gallant Colonel then sat down amidst loud cheers).

The Chairman next gave—"The Press of Great Britain, and may it never shrink from the maintenance of the great principles of popular freedom." And he had great pleasure in associating the sentiment with the name of Mr Miall, a gentleman well known to all of them, and whose name was held in high estimation by a large circle of friends in this town.

Mr Miall, who was received with enthusiastic cheers, said:—"Although the general principles upon which I have recently regulated my conduct have precluded my taking part in public meetings, I could not resist the kind invitation of your respected committee, to appear once more before a Leicester audience; for in heart I still deem the place my home—(loud cheers)—my affections have lingered behind me, although my labours have been engaged in another quarter—(cheers)—and it is peculiarly gratifying to myself, on the first occasion of again presenting myself to your notice, that it should be in the complete suffrage cause. The cause, I feel assured, will triumph, and nothing will conduce more to its speedy success than the integrity, the honesty, and persevering fidelity of the British Press—(Hear, hear). I know not any peculiar reason why I should have been selected for the sentiment given by the chairman, as the gallant colonel, who has just addressed you—though not the editor of any periodical—has made one of the most splendid contributions to the political literature of the world that the history of this country can furnish. He had long since sown the seeds of which we, the humbler instruments, are gathering the crops; he developed principles which we are now trying to work out; and if any credit is due to myself, much more is due to him, who, in a period of comparitive darkness, amidst scorn and obloquy, embraced and supported those principles—(Cheers). The British press might indeed be the bulwark of British freedom, but it is now the great engine of the aristocracy. The advantages they possess, through the means of their station in life, and the facility with which they can lay their hands on all necessary resources, have put in their power the press of this country. And if individuals take their opinions, and regulate their proceedings by the leading articles of journals, without the due exercise of their own independent reason, they will be conducted to principles utterly at variance with common sense and common justice. Never expect that you will have its support until you can do without it—until, by your own exertions, moral influence, and activity, you have convinced the most incredulous that this movement will certainly go on and triumph. And whenever the conductors of the press consider that this will be the national movement, and be embodied into a legislative act, you will have the whole of the press of Great Britain lending their aid to accelerate a movement the success of which they have done so much to retard—(Hear, hear). It was my lot to take up these principles at a period when they were not altogether so respectable as they now are; and I looked forward with fear and trepidation to the effect which would be produced upon my own readers, for upon the public mind I could expect to have but little influence. It was with great anxiety that I watched the launching of the Nonconformist—(cheers)—to right the wrongs of the oppressed; and to my astonishment, to my pleased disappointment—putting these principles on the grounds of justice, right, and religion, and taking them altogether from the ground of expediency, they fell like good seed upon fertile soil, and sprung up bearing crops that surprised us all—(Cheers). I do not now wonder at it. Whoever is engaged heartily and earnestly, not for himself or for a class, but for man as man, and will urge forward his principles on the ground of the highest truth,—he will possess a power greater than the power of eloquence or argumentation—(Cheers). The great object has been—and I think it should be the great object of all who take

part in these associations, to look upon our fellow-men as equally entitled with ourselves to that right in the representation which we want to govern the community—to protect us from the violence of evil men. And who are they who need protection? The weak rather than the strong—the poor more than the rich—the defenceless rather than those who can defend themselves. We want representation for all—not for a select class; representation real, not nominal—such a mode of representation as will bring into one common centre the mind of the whole community; and we anticipate that one general result will follow—and that will be the expression of the opinion of the whole community. Why should one man enjoy the privilege and deny it to his fellow-man?—(Cheers.) The Complete Suffrage Union may, to the world's eye, appear feeble, small, and contemptible; but if we stick to our post we shall make ourselves felt. At the day of election we will demonstrate our importance—(cheers); and if we cannot secure our own men, we can prevent other men from being returned—(Hear, hear). This is our course." He then referred to the acts of the last session of Parliament. "Look at Sir James Graham's Factory Bill. You may imagine now that the danger is over—that he, and those with whom he acts, having seen the determination of the Dissenting community, will not attempt to repeat it; but there is a power behind him stronger than he is himself—the power of the church—and never will that power be put down in this country until you have given the working classes their right—(Cheers). If injustice is inflicted on your consciences by means of an ecclesiastical establishment, it ought to be so until you are ready to do justice to your fellow-man; the hold which that has on the country is simply in your allowance of injustice to the poor—(Cheers). It roots itself in the comparative indifference of the middle classes to the great principles of right and truth, which, if once settled, would settle all. And are we to allow these things to exist, simply because we distrust mankind? Who are we that we can trust ourselves?—(Cheers.) And who are our representatives? I would much rather cast myself upon the good feelings of mankind at large, than place myself at the mercy of any class. If you want to educate the people, give them their rights—there is no education equal to that which sets a man right in his own eyes—(Hear, hear). If you want to make them moral, to teach them "to do unto others as they would others should do unto them," set them the example; show them that you know what right and justice is by giving them that which belongs to them, as well as yourselves—(Loud cheers). They will learn it far better by this way than by lectures without illustrations. If you will do this—although I believe that political means alone will not be sufficient to regenerate the people of this country—if you were to do this, and allow them to exert those rights which they are equally well qualified with yourselves to enjoy, you would give to a clear stage and no favour—(Hear, hear). And if you believe in the higher interests of eternity, sweep out of the way of their march all those evils which, although concealed under respectable names, are inflicting misery and degradation upon your fellow-man—(Loud and continuous cheering).

The CHAIRMAN next gave—"The principles of religious liberty; may they flourish under the energetic support of Dissenters—long too apathetic—and be no longer periled by the system of political monopoly;" and called upon the Rev. W. Linwood, of Mansfield.

The Rev. W. LINWOOD, who was received with loud cheers, then proceeded to address the meeting in a long and eloquent speech, which our limits will not allow us to give at length. In referring to the conduct of Dissenters, in reference to their principles he said, "I cannot, at the same time, help remarking of Dissenters, that though they say they are most profoundly in love with religious liberty—their love increases in the ratio of the danger to be apprehended from a new enactment; and that it slumbers and is inactive in the presence of a church establishment which is a living lie to our profession—(Loud cheers). I frankly confess, when I heard of cart loads of petitions going up to the House of Commons against the Factory Bill, and remembered how long and how readily these Dissenters had been silent—how long they had compromised their principles, which can never be established, until the establishment, as such, is laid low in the dust—(cheers)—I could not but feel surprised and indignant, and exclaim in my heart—'O! ye blind guides; ye strain at a knat and swallow a camel'—(Loud cheers). They had heard a great deal about religious liberty, but he believed there was much of that profession of liberty which was selfish. When Dissenters saw that their Sunday-schools were in danger; that if the children left the schools, the parents were very likely to leave the chapels—when the ghastly spectacle of empty pews and empty pockets appeared before them, they could call public meetings, and set to work every means to obtain an expression of public opinion sufficient to avert the menaced danger—('Hear,' and cheers). While they have done this, they have neglected to attack that very system of class legislation which has brought home to them all the evils of the Factory Bill, whilst to thousands of the poor it has caused absolute starvation. That which was only threatening them was starving others: and I ask them, if they really do love that liberty, to lay the axe to the root of the tree"—(Loud cheers). He concluded in the following terms:—"I have spoken strongly, I am aware, on this subject; but if a man picks your pocket, what can you call him but a thief?—(Laughter.) What use is it fishing through the vocabulary for soft and slippery words, which have no weight upon the conscience?—(Renewed laughter.) Let that language be used, which expresses plainly the sentiments you wish to convey. I am not one of those who believe that any great number of the clergy are very spiritually inclined towards the people. It is only within the last few years that the clergy have begun to think of education; and it is rather curious, when the people are endeavouring to obtain their political rights, that they come forward with a Factory Bill, and say, 'Let us educate the people'—(Hear, hear).—What grand or noble measure of reform ever brought forward, have not the clergy opposed? Even the measure for the emancipation of the Negroes was opposed by them, and a Bishop in the House of Lords was not wanting to quote scripture in favour of slavery. They opposed Catholic Emancipation; and the Reform Bill—trumpery as it was—found in them its bitterest foe. It is not the Church of England—it should be designated the "stand-still" church. It is the church of an aristocracy—it is not a national church for the people protest against it—(Cheers). I exhort you, in the name of our common faith, and as the descendants of those who toiled and suffered for liberty, not to talk about these piecemeals of reform, but to purify the fountain at once, and if you cannot purify it, to dry it up—(Loud cheers). Strike at the root of the evil—do justice—have faith in your fellow-creatures; for it is not until you trust and confide in man, that you know what good is in him. It is for want of faith in that goodness that man has been so degraded, so sunken; and if it had been exercised, this country would have been more noble and more glorious than it is—(Enthusiastic cheers). I will conclude, by commending again to you those great principles which we believe to be interwoven with, and necessary to secure, good government"—(The rev gent. then sat down amidst loud and continued cheering).

The Rev. J. P. MURSELL, in a complimentary speech, moved a vote of thanks to the gentlemen who had come from a distance and expressed a hope that Col. Thompson would shortly become a representative for the borough.

C. R. EDMONDS, Esq., in seconding the motion said, he was very happy to see the fathers of free trade and complete suffrage in their midst, with some of the noblest of their sons on either side.

The resolution having been carried, a vote of thanks to the chairman of the meeting was proposed by Mr Miall, seconded by Mr Sturge, and carried with acclamation. The meeting then broke up.

MR VINCENT'S PROGRESS IN THE WEST.

TRURO, CORNWALL.—Mr Vincent arrived in this town on Monday, the 21st, and, though no previous announcement of his visit had been given, a large body of the inhabitants assembled in the public Institute, at less than an hour's notice. Mr Vincent, who entered the room about half-past seven, was loudly applauded. Mr T. Barlow, a respectable tradesman, was unanimously called to the chair. Mr Vincent then addressed the assembly, stating the reasons which had led to the formation of the Complete Suffrage Union—the principles it sought to adopt, and the means it proposed to use to carry the principles into effect. Though this town has not been noted for political activity for the past few years, his sentiments were received in the most enthusiastic manner. Mr S. Barlow, of St Austell, addressed the assembly, and sincerely hoped Mr Vincent would favour the inhabitants of Truro with a second address. Mr Vincent stated that he had to be at Falmouth on Tuesday, and Devonport on Thursday; but that to further the good cause he would return to Truro on Wednesday, and leave by mail at three the next morning. The announcement of a second address was received with vociferous cheering. Votes of thanks were unanimously passed to Mr Vincent and the Chairman.

FALMOUTH.—On Tuesday, the 22nd, Mr Vincent visited this town, and delivered an address to a highly respectable auditory in the Town hall, the use of which had been granted by the right worshipful the Mayor, who is a member of the Complete Suffrage Union. On the platform with Mr Vincent were the Mayor and several influential inhabitants.—Rickarby, Esq. (editor of the *Falmouth Packet*), was unanimously called to the chair. He expressed the gratification he felt on taking the chair, and hoped that the principles of complete suffrage would soon take a firm hold upon the popular mind. Mr Vincent was received with loud cheers, and addressed the meeting for two hours, on the important principles of complete suffrage. His speech was listened to with great attention, interrupted only by the plaudits of the auditory. At the conclusion, the Chairman stated, that if any gentleman had any question to put, Mr Vincent would be happy to answer him. No one objecting to the principles, a vote of thanks was unanimously awarded to Mr Vincent, amidst loud and continued applause.

TRURO, WEDNESDAY NIGHT.—We have had a splendid meeting here to-night. Mr Vincent's first address having awakened attention in the town, the Institute was crowded by a most respectable and enthusiastic body of the inhabitants. On entering, Mr Vincent was received with loud cheers. Mr Jeremiah Reynolds (one of the town council) was unanimously called to the chair. He said he took the chair with pleasure. The Reform bill had failed in procuring the just representation of the people; it was time, therefore, to take another march forward. Mr Vincent, in rising, was again welcomed by loud plaudits, and addressed the meeting for nearly three hours, in illustration and defence of the principle and details of complete suffrage. Never did meeting more heartily respond to the glorious truths of democracy. The *West Briton* states, "that such enthusiasm was quite startling to the cool, calculating spirit of Cornishmen." At the conclusion of his address, the cheering lasted for several minutes. Mr Thomas Barlow then moved the formation of a provisional committee with power to add its numbers, to take steps for the organisation of a complete suffrage union. Three-times-three cheers were then given for complete suffrage, three for Mr Vincent, three for the chairman, and the enthusiastic meeting separated. There is every prospect of the suffrage movement taking deep root here.

DEVONPORT.—Henry Vincent addressed a large and respectable audience in this town, on Friday night, on complete suffrage, and the necessity of union between the working and middle classes. His reception was of the most gratifying kind, and his address was received with the most intense enthusiasm. The suffrage union progresses here and is likely soon to take an important position. Efforts are making to circulate the *Nonconformist*, which paper has already done a world of good in the neighbourhood.

We understand Mr Vincent has received pressing invitations from other important towns in Cornwall, which he has been reluctantly compelled to decline for the present. He promises, at his earliest convenience, to go through the entire county. A spirit is now awakened that will not die. The pious people of Cornwall have only to catch a glimpse of the important connexion between religion and their social and political duties to rouse them, as the heart of one man, in defence of liberty. That time will soon come.

NOTTINGHAM.—At a meeting of the members of the Nottingham Complete Suffrage association, held on Monday week, at their news room, Swann's yard, Long row, Mr S. Bean in the chair—it having been intimated that the association was about being deprived, for a time, of the services of Mr Beggs—it was moved, seconded, and resolved unanimously,

"That the cordial thanks of this meeting be given to Mr Thomas Beggs, the originator of, and late secretary to, this association, for the unwearied zeal, firmness, and talent, repeatedly displayed by him on the most important occasions; and that, although this association will sustain a great loss by his removal, it, nevertheless, rejoices that one so devoted and able has consented to visit the midland counties, for the purpose of disseminating the principles of a full, fair, and free representation of the people; and assures him that, in his extended sphere of labour, he is the bearer of the sympathies and confidence of this association."

We understand that the news room is well attended, being conducted upon so low a scale as to allow the working man to enjoy the luxury of perusing most of the best newspapers of the day.

AYLESBURY.—We take the following extracts from an able article on the subject of registration, which appeared in the *Aylesbury News* of Saturday:—

"We would advise that a club be formed upon the broad principles of civil, religious, and commercial liberty, easy of admittance, and which shall not confine itself merely to the registration, but undertake to advance these great principles in every possible way consistent with the honesty and truth upon which themselves are founded. Were such a club formed upon a really liberal basis, not excluding the poorest non-elector really anxious and zealous for the work, it would soon take the lead in all the movements of the anti-tory party, infuse strength and confidence among all the liberals, and keep the great truths of our political faith constantly before the public. The timid would be encouraged, the desponding restored to hope, and the unthinking (who join a party without knowing wherefore) driven to the contemplation and perhaps reception of the three great points of our political faith. The first thing to be done is to agree to these fundamentals; these being arranged, the mode of operation would soon be determined on. * * * At present we have no party, though we have ample materials for a large and powerful one; and until the political principles upon which the combination is to be formed are agreed upon and avowed, we do not see how any party can be formed. Toryism is not in so triumphant a position in this borough as many imagine, and we have only to determine on its downfall, for that downfall to be consummated. To go on as we have lately been going on is to do worse than nothing, and it would be better to avow our determination not to do anything. The old whigs among us must allow for the altered state of things which the Reform act has brought about; they must not think that we young reformers will allow all the free trade agitation to go for nothing, or that we shall any longer follow in their trail without knowing the object at which they aim. * * * They will soon feel the disagreeableness of their position, and hasten to join our ranks. Let, then, the combination be formed, let the agitation commence, and let the watchwords be, 'Free Trade, Universal Suffrage, and Unrestricted Religious Liberty.'"

BRENTFORD COMPLETE SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION.—At the meeting held on Thursday last, a letter was read from J. Bright, Esq., M.P., in reply to a resolution of a former meeting, congratulating the hon. member on his return for Durham, and reminding him of his previously expressed opinions upon the suffrage question. The following is an extract from the letter:—"I am much obliged for the resolution of your association, and hope not wholly to fail in that which I am entrusted with. My mission is on the free trade question, but I have a deep interest in all other questions which affect the freedom and welfare of my countrymen, and of my fellow men all over the world." A letter was also read from E. B. Roche, Esq., M.P., in reply to a resolution of thanks, for the manly way in which he had protested against the pretensions of the whigs. Mr Roche says—"The course which I took in the debate in the house of Commons upon the occasion alluded to has been since vindicated by all my constituents, by other large bodies of the Irish people, and by the whole liberal press of Ireland; and I assure you that the pride and gratification thereby afforded are in no small degree enhanced by finding that such sanction is participated in by the Brentford Complete Suffrage association." After several members had been admitted, the meeting proceeded to pass a vote of thanks to those members of Parliament who had opposed the bill for arming the Chelsea pensioners, the resolution being seconded by a Chelsea pensioner, and the proceedings terminated with a vote expressive of condolence with Mr Arthur O'Neill, on the occasion of his tyrannical imprisonment.

NORTHAMPTON.—At a meeting of the Northampton Complete Suffrage association last week, the following resolution was passed:—"That the thanks of this association are eminently due and are hereby presented to Thomas Duncombe, Esq., the member for Finsbury, and his parliamentary associates, forming the magnanimous and high-minded opposition of sixteen and thirteen, in many divisions of the House, against the infamous measure called the 'Chelsea Pensioners' bill,' which, should it pass and become law, will arm the government with a power at once dangerous and expensive; and will, while adding to the burthens of a much oppressed people, be peculiarly unjust to the men whose term of servitude has expired. That a copy of the above be transmitted to Thomas Duncombe, Esq., by the secretary, who shall beg him to communicate the sentiment to those of

his colleagues voting with him, but unknown to the association."

COMPLETE SUFFRAGE IN THE ISLE OF MAN.—On the 15th inst, a meeting was held at St John's, Isle of Man, at which a resolution to the following effect was unanimously passed, and left in the parliament house :—

"That we who are now assembled (Englishmen) have heard with deep regret that the members of the House of Keys are self-elected, and therefore irresponsible to the people.

"That we are of opinion that every man of twenty-one years of age, of sound mind, should have his right to vote in order to elect his own representative."

CUPAR.—The committee of the Cupar Complete Suffrage association met in their committee room on the evening of Friday last, for the despatch of business connected with the association. The first thing to which the attention of the committee was called was a proposal by one of their number to get up a course of lectures for the winter season, with a view to bring more fully before the minds of the public the principles of the association, as well as to diffuse information on general subjects. The committee highly approved of the plan as being well fitted to secure the ends at which they aimed, and unanimously resolved to have a course of monthly lectures, the first to be given in the month of October. After some conversation, in which the claim such an association had on the aid of the dissenting clergy was stated, it was unanimously resolved to write all the clergy of the town and neighbourhood, requesting them to give a lecture each, on any subject they might think proper. It was also reported to the committee that the Rev. William Halley, of Markinch, had kindly consented to give the first lecture, for which they expressed themselves deeply indebted to the rev. gentleman. The committee then appointed four of their number, with the clerk, as a sub-committee to make the necessary arrangements for carrying into effect the foregoing resolutions, and instructed the clerk to draw up a report of their proceedings for the past year, to be given in at the first general meeting.—*Fife Herald.*

THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.—The commissioners on Fine Arts have presented a second report on this subject, in which they say :—

"Having satisfied ourselves respecting the attainments of many British artists in the practice of cartoon drawing, and respecting their capacity to attain excellence in those qualities which are essential in historical painting, we now propose, in pursuance of the plan before announced by us, to invite artists to exhibit specimens in fresco painting of a moderate size, which, by being portable, will enable all candidates for employment in that method of painting to send in works exhibiting their qualifications therein as painters and colourists, and which, taken together with the larger compositions in drawing which they have exhibited or may exhibit, and with other existing evidences of their talents, may enable us to proceed to the selection of artists for the decorations in fresco of certain portions of the palace. Nevertheless, as paintings executed in other methods may be free from a shining surface, and may therefore be deemed by some artists to be fit for the decoration of walls, we have invited such artists to exhibit specimens of the methods in question, and shall regard such methods as open for consideration.

"With respect to sculpture, we have announced that various statues will be required for the decoration of the palace, and we have invited artists to exhibit models, in order to assist us in the selection of sculptors to be employed.

"With regard to decorative arts of various kinds—namelyl glass staining, arabesque painting, wood carving, ornamental metal work, and ornamental pavements, we have in like manner issued notices inviting artists and others to send in specimens in order to assist us in the selection of persons to be employed.

"We have further humbly to state to your Majesty, that the claims of candidates for employment in oil painting and other departments of the art besides historical painting will be considered hereafter."

At a meeting of representatives from the committee and shareholders of the North Midland and Midland Counties, and the Birmingham and Derby railways, held at Derby last week, it was finally resolved that the three companies should be amalgamated into one on the following terms :—That the shareholders in the North Midland and Midland Counties companies shall receive equal dividends on their shares, and that the shareholders in the Birmingham and Derby company shall receive 27s. 6d. less per £100 share per annum than those of the other companies.

Friday night's *Gazette* contains a "notice," signifying to the opium merchants who sustained losses by the operations in China, that "Parliament has granted the sum of £1,281,211, being the produce in sterling of the said 6,000,000 dollars, after deducting the sum of £33,977, on account of 500 chests of opium provided at the expense of her Majesty's government; and that her Majesty has authorised the lords commissioners of her treasury to distribute the said sum of £1,281,211 amongst the said parties entitled to compensation, according to the ascertained relative value of the several descriptions of opium delivered up."

FATHER MATHEW.—This great apostle of temperance will not be able to visit this country during the present year. He has, however, notified to the Catholic Abstinence society of Philadelphia, that he will meet them next year. Plenty of work for him here.—*New York Herald.*

The Prince de Joinville and the Duke D'Aumale left rather unexpectedly on Wednesday, and caused a panic on the Stock Exchange, by their sudden mysterious departure. It is, however, supposed that this conveyed the invitation from Louis Philippe to the Queen, respecting the projected visit of the former to the French coast.

On a requisition presented by a deputation of Common Councilmen, the Lord Mayor has appointed the 1st of September for a meeting of the Council to adopt an address of welcome to General Espartero on his arrival in this country.

We are informed that a considerable majority of the agents of assurance companies in this town have come to the resolution to close their respective offices on Friday afternoons.—*Manchester Times.*

EXPORTATION OF DONKEYS.—Four and twenty donkeys were entered for exportation by the Emerald Isle for Rotterdam, from Hull, on Wednesday. They were of all sizes and sexes. It appears that the demand at Rottecdam increases. The trade was new a fortnight ago, when it opened with a lot of ten, followed by an equal number last week; so that in a fortnight the exports have more than doubled.

HOW TO WALK THE STREETS.—A board has been recently placed near the drawbridge, Bristol, containing a request of the magistrates that the inhabitants would observe the London "rule and law" of walking, which are as under :—1st. Always keep next the wall when it is upon your right hand, and not otherwise; your left hand should be next the left hand of the person you meet. 2d. When overtaking, and wishing to pass any one, go out of the line, and pass with your right hand next the person's left. 3d. When the footway is too narrow for two people, that person must keep on it whose right hand is next the wall.

A SIGNIFICANT REPLY.—"Thomas," said a sponging friend of the family to a footman, who had been lingering about the room to show him the door, "Thomas, my good fellow, it's getting late, is n't it? How soon will the dinner come up, Thomas!" "The very moment you be gone, sir," was the unequivocal reply.

Postscript.

Wednesday, August 30th.

HER MAJESTY'S MARINE EXCURSION.—On Monday evening, the Queen and the royal party landed at Ryde, and paid a visit to Lady Harcourt, and afterwards returned to Cowes roads, where the squadron anchored for the night. Early yesterday morning the Queen and Prince Albert went on board the Earl of Yarborough's yacht, the Kestrel, and were conducted over the vessel. They then proceeded to West Cowes, and paid a visit to Norris castle, where her Majesty resided when Princess Victoria. From thence they took an excursion round the back of the island, and were to go ashore at Ventnor, from whence it was supposed they would proceed to Weymouth. Her Majesty is in excellent spirits, and appears to be much gratified with her excursion. Both the Queen and Prince Albert have expressed themselves highly satisfied with the yacht and her accommodations. She has proved herself an admirable sea boat, and does credit to her constructor. Intelligence has been brought by the Dart, steamer, from Dieppe, that preparations on a large scale are making at Ville d'Eu, for the reception of her Majesty. Louis Philippe, and the whole of the royal family of France, are now at the Chateau d'Eu, and a large portion of the chateau has been fitted up for the expected royal visitants from this side of the channel. Besides the royal family, the ministers of state, and several peers of France, are assembling at the chateau to welcome her Majesty.

FATHER MATHEW IN RAG FAIR.—This locality, which for filth and poverty rivals St Giles's, was yesterday visited by the apostle of Temperance with the greatest success. The large waste ground called the Ruin, was crowded throughout the day with a poor but orderly and attentive assemblage. The greatest eagerness was manifested to receive the pledge, and in less than an hour 450 persons had joined the temperance ranks. Father Mathew said that 53,000 had taken the pledge in London, and this he considered equivalent to 1,000,000 in Ireland. Upwards of 2,000 persons received the pledge in the course of the day, and the meeting is described as having been the most successful that has yet been held in the metropolis.

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE.—IMPORTANT MEETING.—On Monday morning a meeting of the ratepayers of West Bromwich was held, to consider the best plan to be adopted to remove the heavy parochial burdens. The meeting chiefly had reference to the establishment of the new rural police force, against which 5,000 of the ratepayers had in vain petitioned the magistrates of the county. One of the speakers (Mr Powell) said—He for one would pay to the support of the poor as long as he was able, but he most solemnly declared that, unless the police rate could be separated from the poor rate, he never would again pay one farthing of it [loud cheers]. They might summon him for the poor rate, and he would attend; and they might issue their warrants and sell his goods; but he then, for once and all, declared his fixed determination to pay no more. He would not propose any resolution to that effect, neither should he ever ask any man not to pay; but, in proof of his sincerity in the declaration he had made, he would hold up his hand. At the instant every hand in the meeting was held up, followed by cheering. The following resolutions were then carried.

"1. That this meeting looks with alarm upon the rapidly increasing burdens of the ratepayers in this parish, and whilst the increase is partly occasioned by the deepfelt distress of the country at large, it believes that it is in a great measure owing to the existence and maintenance of a body of police, whose services are notoriously unnecessary for the peace of the community.

"2. That whilst this meeting considers it to be the duty of all in the possession of rateable property to pay cheerfully for the support of the poor, they are, nevertheless, unanimously of opinion that it is grievously unjust and unconstitutional that the magistrates of this county should have the power to force a police upon them, in opposition to the wishes of the ratepayers, and burden them, without their consent, with the enormous expense incurred by their support."

THE REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—On no previous occasion has so much excitement occurred at the meetings of this association as took place on Monday, when it was expected that Mr O'Connell would announce the course they should pursue in reference to the Queen's speech. The Corn exchange was densely crowded. A resolution was passed, that the statue of Mr O'Connell, to be erected by Mr Hogan, should represent the Liberator on the occasion of uttering these words at the Mallow demonstration. "They may trample upon me, but it shall not be on my living body, but on my corpse." Mr O'Connell retracted all that he had said in opposition to the reporter of the *Times* and his partisanship, and declared himself in the wrong. £113 was handed in from the repealers of Ohio, whom Mr O'Connell lectured for their slavery predilections, though a free state; £270 was handed in from Newfoundland. Mr O'Connell then proceeded to address the meeting in reference to his plan for re-organising the Irish parliament. He said it was wrong, as stated in the *Times*, that the English House of Lords had at all times judicial authority over the Irish Lords and Commons. His plan for the re-organisation of the Irish parliament had nothing whatever to do with the next step—the Preservative association. Full details were necessary before that association should be formed. He was glad to be enabled to say that already a large number of gentlemen of the first respectability were ready to become candidates for seats in the "Preservative association." He would not propose the plan of that association until he had it so thoroughly arranged as to be strictly within the letter of the law. He concluded by moving that district repeal wardens should be appointed for the two first towns on his list which are to return members to the Irish parliament, namely, Arklow and Ardee. These district wardens will be required to make out lists of all the householders—all the married men—in short, of all the persons who will be qualified to vote for representatives under the new Irish constitution. Mr O'Connell said, that from the importance of the topics introduced in the Queen's speech, it was thought necessary to come to their consideration with all possible deliberation, and from the lateness of the hour, he thought it the better course to defer any remarks upon them until Tuesday. The week's rent was announced to be £1,380 7s. 4d., and the meeting separated.

SPAIN.—At Madrid disunion exists to a serious extent between the ministers and the military chiefs. Narvaez wants to have military law proclaimed, which Lopez and his colleagues are opposed to; and it is rumoured that it is the intention of the military party to take advantage of the Queen's being at La Granja, and proclaim her majority on the 25th, the Princess Louisa's birthday. By this means, the Queen being in their hands, they would get rid of such of the Lopez cabinet as are in their way, and try to put down the re-action now going on in the country by violent means. The adherents of Espartero held a meeting on the 20th inst, at which commissioners were appointed to promote the success of their party at the ensuing election. The *Monitour* has the following telegraphic despatch :—

"By decree of the 21st, General Aroz is appointed captain-general of Catalonia, and General Gil de Aballo second in command. General Arbuthnot is appointed second in command of Valencia, and charged with the functions of captain-general."

From Barcelona we learn that reinforcements were beginning to arrive, and that Prim, who had entered on his functions as governor, had received assurances from the officers of the battalions of the garrison that he might reckon on them and their men, should he find it necessary to reduce the junta and its partisans by force to obey the government. The Patulea, in the mean time, appeared determined not to surrender the fort of the Atarazanas; but the governor of Montjuich was understood to have declared, on the evening of the 21st, that if a shot was fired from the fort against the citadel, he would throw shells into that edifice.

AMERICA.—By the Acadia steamer we learn that Christina Gilmour, the woman who had been followed, and under arrest, charged with the murder of her husband in Scotland, has been given up to the custody of the constable sent after her from Scotland, and will be conveyed to England for trial forthwith. The harvest in the North-western States was got in, and was expected to prove very abundant, especially in Michigan and the other states bordering on the St Lawrence and the lakes. General Hamilton has made an admirable speech against repudiation, in the very vortex of repudiation — Mississippi. The Tennessee elections are believed to have gone in favour of the whig party, which has re-elected the governor. If the whigs should have a majority in the legislature, they will be in a condition to elect two United States' senators, which will give the whigs a majority in the United States' senate during all the remaining term of President Tyler's office. Thus they will be able to veto or reject any of his appointments. The democratic party will have an overwhelming majority in the Congress. Santa Anna is very determined in his measures for the pacification of Mexico, and has enacted a law to the effect that all foreigners taken in the teritories of that country, under arms, shall be immediately put to death.

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE. THIS DAY.

The supply of English wheat is 1,750 quarters, of foreign 6,610; not much doing, at Monday's prices.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Notices to correspondents deferred until next week.

Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.

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The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, AUG. 30, 1843.

SUMMARY.

HER MAJESTY prorogued the houses of parliament on Thursday last, when, under the advice and direction of her cabinet, she delivered a speech, which exquisitely harmonised with the legislative results of the session. It is said that the royal lady read with marked emphasis those paragraphs which denounced the agitation now rife in Ireland for a repeal of the legislative union. It is possible that this circumstance, if true, may have originated the rumour, which has found its way into the *Leeds Times*, that "the Queen has expressed a very strong opinion on the subject of Irish affairs, and that, as the result of that opinion, backed by the opinion of the iron duke, we may expect a mad step to be taken, ere long, in the sister kingdom."

Undismayed by ministerial manifestoes, put into the mouth of royalty by men known to be hostile to his ulterior designs, O'Connell is proceeding with increased earnestness in the great work he has undertaken. At the last meeting of the Repeal association, he laid upon the table his project for the Irish reformed parliament. It will be found in another column. The principal features of it are as follow. The number of members to constitute the Irish house of Commons is to be fixed at 300, of which 173 are to be representatives of counties, and 127 of cities and towns. The right of voting is to be what is called household suffrage, requiring six months' residence in the counties, with the addition, in the towns, of married men resident for twelve months, whether householders or not. The mode of voting is by the ballot. The privileges, hereditary and personal, of the peers of Ireland, together with the legislative and judicial authority of the Irish House of Lords, and the exercise of the prerogative in augmenting and limiting the peerage, as the same did of right exist before the year 1800, are to be acknowledged, maintained, and preserved for ever. And, finally, the people of Ireland are pledged continually to preserve and uphold all the prerogatives of her Majesty, and of her heirs and successors, belonging to, and inherent in, the imperial crown of Ireland; "and they will true allegiance bear—pure, undivided, and indivisible—to her Majesty, her heirs and successors for ever." Such is a brief outline of Mr O'Connell's plan for the future government of Ireland—a plan which he proposes practically to carry out by the election, in the first instance, of three hundred members to constitute a Preservative society, and to advise the people on all matters touching their political and social well being. He pledges himself to keep within the strict bounds of law; and the tone which he adopts indicates that, to his own judgment at least, ultimate and not distant success is within his grasp. It will take something more than paragraphs in a Queen's speech to crush this formidable foe to aristocracy.

On Wednesday last the report of the sub-committee appointed to consider a general system of arbitration throughout the country, was laid before the Repeal association by Dr Gray. The report recommended that a standing committee be formed to arrange the necessary details; that the counties be apportioned into districts: that the dismissed magistrates be, in the first place, recommended as arbitrators; that the candidates for the office should be appointed by the association, on the recommendation of the repeal wardens; that not fewer than three arbitrators should be appointed to each petty session district; that the penalty for refusing to abide by the award of the arbitrators should be expulsion from the Repeal association; with various details respecting the procedure to be observed.

Outrages continue to be perpetrated in Wales. The house of a lay impropriator of tithes has been attacked by a band of about five hundred men, and threatening notices have been served upon others. Most of the toll-gates in the disturbed districts are down, and the few which remain are constantly guarded. The landlords, alarmed by the restless energy of the people, begin to show a greater disposition to listen to the grievances of their tenants, and during the past week several meetings have been held for that purpose. Local disquietude is gradually merging into political discontent, and the dissolution of the present parliament has been loudly called for.

The complete suffrage movement quietly progresses. Wherever, as at Leicester, they hold a social gathering, the number and respectability of adherents to the cause excite surprise even amongst its own friends. Mr Vincent's career in the west of England is a series of triumphs, proving, to the satisfaction of the most incredulous, that complete suffrage principles can take root in other than manufacturing districts.

One word, in conclusion, on the movements of royalty. Her Majesty and Prince Albert have left Windsor, and proceeded from the Farnborough station, by railway, to Southampton. The party embarked on board the Victoria and Albert steamer, fitted up by government for her Majesty's marine excursions, and proceeded to Cowes and Ryde. They intend running across to Dieppe or Cherbourg, and will pay a visit to the King of the French at his chateau d'Eu. The time of their departure will be regulated by the weather, and visits will be paid, meanwhile, to places of note upon the coast.

THE RETURN OF SEED-TIME.

PARLIAMENT has risen and is gone. Its members—grave, gay, mute, and loquacious, prosy and eloquent, selfish and patriotic—have separated, and are now dispersed over the face of the country. Whilst they remained together, and constituted what is called "a house," attention turned towards them its wearied gaze, watched their proceedings, and studied their various changes. The public mind, during the continuance of the session, little as it may hope from "the collective wisdom" of the empire, will not suffer itself to be distracted by out-of-door agitations. The press, overladen with heavy parliamentary reports, turns restive under any additional burdens. Society catches the yawn which, from time to time, distorts the countenance of the legislative body, and becomes infected with similar drowsiness. From February until August, dullness reigns undisputed over the political world. The atmosphere is heavy—scarcely a bird is on the wing. If, here and there, unmindful of the season, some strong and hardy agitator hovers within public view, his gyrations are noted but for a moment, are described in brief paragraphs, and dismissed without comment. The recess comes, and with it come freshness of spirits and a morning appetite for wholesome food. 'Tis the proper season for ministering sound instruction to the nation's mind—the seed-time of agitation. All influences conspire to put the soil in a favourable condition for the reception of the precious germs of truth.

We earnestly trust that the friends of complete suffrage principles will be on the alert. Noisy demonstrations, indeed, we do not wish to witness. The enthusiasm which they generate is evanescent—bubbles and froths but a brief hour, and then passes off. The great truth which our associations are framed to embody, wins its way most triumphantly in quiet and unobtrusive discussion. It asks for calmness and sobriety of mind, that it may address itself to the reason and conscience of man. But between the turbulence of promiscuous and multitudinous gatherings, and the stillness of positive inaction, there is a wide interval. The advocates of political equality should now recommence work in earnest. There are numberless modes in which they may labour effectively for the diffusion of a knowledge of their principles, during the parliamentary recess. They may secure for their respective districts the services of competent lecturers—may hold soirées—may promote discussion—may circulate tracts—may canvass electors—may devise and bring into operation plans of organisation—may invite candidates for the House of Commons, and introduce them to constituencies. These, and various other modes of quiet agitation should be zealously resorted to until the re-opening of parliament.

The time for such seed-sowing is peculiarly auspicious. Never, perhaps, did the temper of society promise to the advocates of complete suffrage so certain, or so abundant, a reward of their toil. So long as public confidence lingered about the doors of our existing representative system, it was impossible to gain over its assent to a radical constitutional change. That door has been haughtily and insultingly slammed in its face, and, happily, it turns elsewhere for a redress of its manifold wrongs. A thousand prejudices, which clung about middle-class government, have, during the past session, been torn up by the heedless acts of senators. The present order of things has ceased to inspire faith; hope cannot root itself upon the exhausted soil. Men who look for a substantial harvest have given over the cultivation of a spot which yields them no return. Conviction of the necessity of thorough organic reform has taken hold upon all classes. They begin to discern that between it and ruin there is no middle path. They are just now, consequently, disposed to listen to prescriptions which, a twelvemonth since, they scouted as empirical and dangerous. Calm statement and lucid argument may be sure of obtaining for themselves due consideration. We have the ear of the public for a few weeks, and it will be our own fault if we do not avail ourselves of the opportunity.

We speak advisedly. We have no desire that our bare assertion should stand for proved and indisputable truth. Let our readers mark the facts of the case, and they can hardly fail of being conducted to the conclusion that public opinion condemns the present representative system as a hollow pretence. Have not the leaders of every great cause ceased to make the House of Commons the theatre for the exhibition of the principles they advocate? O'Connell turns from it to the Irish people—Cobden and Bright to the agricultural tenants—Sharman Crawford to the constituencies of our boroughs and manufacturing towns. No earnest man cares to urge his views upon the usurping occupants of the people's house. If reason is to be appealed to, it is reason outside the walls of parliament. If an address is to be made to conscience, it is to the conscience of society. No one hopes to touch the chord of compassion in that house, nor to elicit a response from its natural sense of justice. It has ceased to be regarded as the high court in which for the wronged to plead, or the injured to seek redress. All the earnest advocates of political truth have abandoned it, to exert their energies, and array their arguments, and launch their appeals, before a larger, a less corrupt, a more swayable audience.

This is one indication that oligarchical legislation has lost its once tenacious hold upon the public mind. Take another—the ominous paucity of petitions to Parliament. They who look over, with care, the "votes and proceedings" of the House of Commons must be struck with the fact that the practice of petitioning is falling into desuetude. The deluge which overwhelmed the House upon the introduction of the ecclesiastico-educational project of Sir J. Graham was an exception which served to prove rather than to set aside the rule. The fact has been noticed by members themselves, and every man who has occupied a seat in the legislative chamber for a series of years can testify, if he will, that the present session of parliament, one of the longest upon record, has not been protracted, save in the instance already alluded to, by the presentation to the House of petitions from the people. We own we are not taken by surprise in this matter. Upwards of two years since we led our readers to anticipate precisely these results. The language of anticipation we then employed may now be converted into that of history. Here is a transcript of it:—

"The light in which the House will be regarded by the nation is not more doubtful than the light in which the nation will be regarded by the House. Respect for its decisions cannot, in reason, be anticipated. Its discussions will be treated as mere fudge—its votes as a bit-by-bit resumption of cash squandered in electioneering contests. The officers to whom the petitions belong as a perquisite will be likely to find a lamentable 'falling off' in their department. Men might as well fire blank cartridges against stone walls, as send up their parchment and paper to the 'long-purse' parliament. The House of Commons will cease to be looked to as the organ for the expression of the nation's will. People will find out some other outlet for their political excitement. Feeling will no longer course through its accustomed channel. All hope of renovation by parliamentary means being cut off, the nation will look to other sources. We predict a diminution of the practice of petitioning, and an increase of out-door agitation."

Now, the phenomena we have above adverted to have a propitious aspect towards the complete suffrage cause. Public confidence, weaned from the existing system, may the more easily be attracted to the proposed changes. Blind attachment to "things as they are" has died down to the roots, and young desire for national renovation shoots up in its place, pliable as a twig in spring, and capable of being inclined to whatever position we will. The country, with many hard struggles and much internal suffering, has all but cast its old skin of prejudice, and all classes are becoming susceptible to influences which, until recently, they scarcely felt. Now, therefore, is the time for active exertion. During the present recess every stroke will tell. Every legitimate means should be put in requisition for the wide diffusion of sound political truth. "Where there's a will there's a way." Let each individual look over the list of his friends—and, according to his means, convey to them the pithiest and shortest tract upon the subject which his judgment can select. The cost will be trifling—the results may be important. Every one embracing the principle of political equality may thus in his social circle become an agitator for justice. By this means strength will be economised, and comparatively feeble instrumentality be made to compass great and worthy ends. It behoves us all to work while we may—seed-time has returned, and with hearty good-will let us go forth to our labour.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.—THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

ROYAL speeches, penned sometimes to express, oftener to conceal, the general political sentiments

of the government for the time being, and delivered, as report uniformly gives out, in a clear, firm voice, and with especial emphasis on such paragraphs as may happen to harmonise with the views of the reporter, are not usually remarkable for supplying either amusement or instruction. Their purport none can decipher. Each sentence, examined apart from the rest, is intelligible, it is true—and, were it ever so difficult of interpretation, would by this time be understood, inasmuch as the substance of it, if not the precise form, is but a repetition of what has stood upon the paper for many preceding years. The public mind has consequently become familiar with these vehicles of thought, knows the very noise and creak of their wheels, as well as the colour of their several panels, and the fashion of their build. It is not difficult, consequently, to translate every paragraph into the vernacular. But why these paragraphs should be woven into one entire tissue—what object is sought to be gained by parading them before the public—in a word, what kind of spirit that may be which finds in royal speeches "a local habitation and a name," it is far beyond the reach of our wisdom to divine.

Statesmen have settled among themselves that the highest praise which a royal speech can attain, is that of expressing *nothing*, in neat and grammatical language. This pitch of perfection they not uncommonly reach. They remind us of certain smooth-shaven, wax-work busts, which we have occasionally seen in the shop windows of fashionable hair dressers, in which may be seen all the features of the human countenance moulded in just and even beautiful proportions, but devoid of a single gleam of life-like expression. They begin nowhere and end in nothing. They are not even shadows of coming events, nor correct impressions of the past. The monarch's personal feelings they do not profess to reflect. They seldom betray the real views of the cabinet which gives them birth. They are not tinged with the prevailing hue of public opinion. They constitute nothing more than the formal head and tail of a parliamentary session—the extreme points, having "neither length, breadth, nor thickness," between which the line of legislation runs. They resemble the *veto* power which our constitution gives to the occupant of the imperial throne—of which it may be said, in seeming paradox, that it is and is not.

The Queen's speech at the prorogation, on Thursday last, divides itself into two branches—a brief allusion to something *done* by parliament, and distinct evidence of much which it has left *undone*. We shall advert to the last-mentioned topics first, that we may the more accurately estimate the importance of what precedes them.

Her Majesty dwells, in no less than seven paragraphs, upon the interruption of the public peace in Wales by lawless combinations and disturbances, and upon the persevering efforts made to stir up discontent and disaffection among her subjects in Ireland, and to excite them to demand a repeal of the legislative union. How comes this? Her Majesty might, with equal propriety, have glanced at wide-spread dissatisfaction in Scotland, and multiplying symptoms of general disgust in England. But how happens it that, after six months' legislative toil, when the Queen appears before both Houses "to close this protracted session," and to release "lords and gentlemen" from further attendance on their parliamentary duties—how happens it that, even omitting the slightest reference to the alarming condition of this country, the larger half of the speech put into her mouth by ministers should be directed to the subjects of popular, we may say national, insubordination? To what good purpose are our representatives called together, unless it be to devise just laws for the people whose authority they wield, to heal discontent by wise remedial measures, and to allay irritation by salutary enactments? Is this, then, the practical advantage of oligarchical legislation—to trouble what it found in comparative quiet, and to leave unquieted what it has succeeded in troubling? Are we to understand that the growing disaffection, to which her Majesty adverts, enables her to release the Houses of parliament from further attendance upon their duties?

But, perhaps, the groundwork of future pacification has been already laid, and the peers and "faithful commons," are now at length dismissed, to watch from afar the soothing operation of their parliamentary proceedings. Well! What says the royal speech on this head? What acts does it enumerate as the practical fruit of this "protracted session?" What steps have been taken to put an end to fiscal difficulties, to unbind the swathes which cripple and paralyse the industry of the country, to remove obstacles out of the pathway of commerce, to relieve exhausted subjects of some portion of the heavy burdens which crush their energies? Two bills are mentioned by her Majesty as having received her cordial assent—the one, for "increasing the means of spiritual instruction in populous parishes, by making a portion of the revenues of the church available for the endowment of additional ministers"—the other "the act for removing doubts respecting the jurisdiction of the church of Scotland in the admission of ministers, and for securing to the people and the courts of the church the full exercise of their respective rights." And these are the only measures to which our Queen, under the advice of ministers, can refer with satisfaction at the close of an unusually extended session! The church! All that parliament has done worth mentioning, concerns the church! The country is sliding down towards the yawning chasm of commercial destruction—political dissatisfaction pervades and unsettles all classes—the elements of revolution are everywhere, within these realms, combining, fermenting, threatening a not distant outbreak—and the Houses of legislature hope to avert all mischief, and to silence all disaffection, by passing laws for increasing the number of the priesthood, and for regulating the exercise of ecclesiastical patronage! Henceforth, Britons are to be ruled by the gown and the cassock, and they whom the sword of mailed barons could not subdue, are to be led into slavery by clerical fopperies and priestly pretence!

But the end is not far off. The session of real events has opened. Providence begins to develop his infallible laws—and as surely as her Majesty prorogued parliament on Thursday last, so surely will the insulted majesty of a great people come down one day, when least expected, and send the aristocracy of both houses to look after their own more immediate and appropriate business.

THE FIRST OF SEPTEMBER.

FRIDAY will usher in a day anxiously expected by all keen sportsmen—the much renowned first of September—an ill-starred day, alas! for partridges and hares. Little ween the luckless birds and the four-footed game which are brought down on that day, that their lives have been but one continuous preparation for death; that they have been gathered into preserves, and bred, and fed, and fattened, and protected from all plebeian annoyances, only at last to enjoy the distinction of being shot by aristocratic sportsmen. Little do they think, even to this day, about the busy hours spent by the most refined and cultivated specimens of man, in cleaning up Mantons, adjusting shot-belts, furnishing powder-flasks, purchasing percussion caps, and putting in order all the accoutrements of the field, for the purpose of making incursions upon the peaceful tribes, and the various orders, of British game. The sun will scarce have risen on the first of September, before hundreds of our senators and peers will sally forth, to commit havoc amongst the unfortunate animals which come under that patrician designation. Before breakfast time, grim death will stuff his maw with feathered and hairy morsels; and, ere the close of day, cart-loads of slaughtered tenants of wood and field will be on their way, as suitable remembrancers, to slippery constituents.

It is a somewhat singular fact, that most of the amusements of the higher orders of British society, as well as their more serious vocations, should be so intimately connected with the development of the organ of destructiveness. To take away life constitutes their favourite pastime at home—their most honoured vocation abroad. In both pursuits they lavish profusely immense sums of money; and, with a view to both, restrict the liberties of their poorer fellow-countrymen, harass them with vexatious laws, foster in them immoral habits, and extinguish all the kindlier sympathies of their nature. Debarred by their artificial position from following, to any great extent, vocations whereby they may contribute to the amount of human happiness, and possessed of large portions of time which otherwise would remain on their hands unoccupied, it is not surprising that they should laboriously provide for themselves work which ministers exclusively to their own gratification, or that they should take pains to breed evils for the subsequent pleasure of putting them down. Hence their game preserves and their diplomatic wiles—their excursions on the first of September, and their invasions of unoffending states in remote parts of the world. It is said of Domitian, that he occupied himself during his leisure moments in killing flies. Our nobles and gentlemen exhibit much the same propensity; with this improvement upon the practices of the emperor—that they breed the flies which they purpose to bill. It would be well if the mischief stopped here. Unhappily, they have got into the habit of looking upon men as fair game; of provoking them to turbulence by corn laws, and of keeping down that turbulence by Chelsea pensioners; of gendering discontent by tyranny, and afterwards quelling it by sword and bullet. Game laws, corn laws, and a standing army illustrate the chief uses of aristocratic government.

HER MAJESTY'S MARINE EXCURSION. — An announcement, which created no small astonishment, was made in the *Times* of Saturday, to the effect that her Majesty intended to visit the King of the French at his country seat at Eu, near Dieppe, in the new steam-yacht Victoria and Albert. On Monday morning at 8 o'clock, accordingly the Queen and Prince Albert, attended by a numerous retinue, left Windsor castle for the Farnborough station of the London and South Western railway, on their way to Southampton. Preparations had been made at the station for the reception of her Majesty, and a new and elegant carriage had been constructed for her reception. The concourse of people assembled to greet the Queen was very limited, in consequence of the uncertainty that prevailed with respect to her movements. The train started at about a quarter past nine, and consisted of five carriages. From Farnborough to Southampton the interest was evidently much increased, for every station was crowded with the gentry and inhabitants of the neighbourhood, who testified by their repeated cheers their welcome to the Sovereign. The pouring rain, however, diminished the pleasure of the scene. The royal train arrived at Southampton about twenty minutes to 11. The Duke of Wellington had passed down the line, in a special train, at an early hour in the morning, accompanied by the Earls of Liverpool and Aberdeen, and other persons of distinction. The Southampton station was hung with a profusion of flags of all nations—festoons of flowers and laurel were hung from pillar to pillar, and the pillars themselves were wreathed with flowers. Here her Majesty and Prince Albert were received by the members of government, and the authorities of the town. A procession was formed, which went through the principal streets of the town; two royal carriages being occupied by the Queen and her immediate attendants. Addresses were presented from the corporation, and during the whole of her progress from the station to the pier, her Majesty was received with the warmest acclamations from the thousands assembled to welcome her arrival. Triumphal arches and flags were the order of the day, and the ships of the river were decked out in all their colours. About half-past eleven the royal party embarked on board the admiralty barge on their way to the yacht, which lay in the middle of the river. The Duke of Wellington handed her Majesty from the pier into the boat. A royal salute was fired from the town guns, which was repeated on the reception of the royal party on board the yacht. Despite the falling rain, the people still maintained their position; and her Majesty and Prince Albert remained on the gangway, repeatedly bowing to the oft-renewed cheers of the people on shore. At twenty minutes past twelve the yacht left its moorings and proceeded down the river, accompanied by the Lightning steamer which conveyed the Lords of the Admiralty, the Cyclops, the Prometheus, the Firebrand, and Fearless, as well as by a host of private steamers and sailing yachts. The fleet proceeded towards Spithead, where the Royal Yacht squadron and various men-of-war were anchored; and after a short sail the royal fleet anchored at Ryde, intending to proceed to Cowes Roads to remain for the night. During the sail from Cowes to the Mother bank, and back to Ryde, the royal yacht was attended by a numerous fleet of vessels of all descriptions, and presented a very majestic and imposing spectacle. We give the following speculations as to the route of her Majesty, on the authority of the *Hampshire Telegraph*:—

"Her Majesty having embarked, will proceed to Spithead, pass round the men-of-war, and then sail round the Isle of Wight, returning to these waters, in which the Queen will remain till Tuesday or Wednesday, and then, it is understood, proceed to Weymouth, where the illustrious party will sleep that night, and on the following morning start for the coast of France (but whether off Dieppe or Cherbourg, we cannot ascertain), and then repair to Plymouth, whither her Majesty intends certainly to proceed. The movements of the Sovereign will, however, be in a great measure regulated by the state of the weather."

Sir R. Peel did not accompany her Majesty, but has left for Drayton manor. Lord Stanley is to remain in town during the vacation.

PRINCE ALBERT'S BIRTHDAY.—Saturday, the anniversary of the birthday of Prince Albert, when his Royal Highness completed his twenty-fourth year, was celebrated at Windsor with unusual magnificence and display. A grand banquet was given in the temple, Virginia water, in the evening, at which the Queen, Prince Albert, the Duchess of Kent, Sir R. Peel, the Earl of Liverpool, &c., were present. About 10,000 persons were assembled on the banks of the lake opposite the temple. The pyrotechnic display, which consisted almost entirely of what are termed "aerial discharges," commenced soon after nine o'clock, with a royal salute from a battery on the bank opposite to the fishing temple. This was returned from the battery at Belvidere. Her Majesty and the Prince, and their distinguished guests, proceeded into the balcony, and from thence witnessed this portion of the entertainments, which principally took place upon an elevated portion of the bank just across the lake. The air was literally in a blaze with clouds of rockets, discharged simultaneously from the battery at Belvidere, the banks on each side, and the vessels on the lake; whilst, at the same time, the banks and eminences, for a considerable distance around the temple, and on the opposite shore, blazed with innumerable crimson, silver, blue, and other fires. Her Majesty and the Prince took their departure at a few minutes past ten.

THE EX-REGENT OF SPAIN.—Her Majesty's war steamer Prometheus, Commander Frederick Lowe, arrived off Woolwich dockyard on Wednesday morning, shortly after eleven o'clock, having on board General Espartero and suite. Sir Francis Collier immediately proceeded on board the Prometheus, and, on the part of the government, at once explained to the ex-Regent that every accommodation, both to himself and suite, would be most gladly rendered, carriages for the conveyance of himself and suite to town being in readiness. His highness, however, declined the offer, adding that he wished his visit to be as private as possible. He, however, took occasion to express, in the most unmeasured terms, his gratitude for the kindness he had experienced from the British authorities from the mo-

ment he placed his foot on board the Malabar ship of war. Espartero proceeded up the river in a small steamer, hired for the purpose, to Hungerford market, where carriages were in waiting to convey him and his suite to Mivart's hotel, Grosvenor square. Along with the ex-Regent are the Duchess of Victoria, his niece, Lady Eladia Espartero, General Van Halen, the late ministers of war and of the interior, Don Juan Lacarto, brigadier-general, and other distinguished civil and military personages. Soon after their arrival at the hotel, Colonel Wylde, equerry to Prince Albert, had a lengthened interview with General Espartero, and subsequently with the members of the staff who accompanied the Regent to this country. Since his arrival the utmost attention has been paid to Espartero by the nobility. On Thursday the hotel was besieged by visitors of rank, among the first of whom was the Duke of Wellington. On Friday the ex-Regent was visited by Sir James Graham, the Marquis of Westminster, Lord Stanley, and a great number of noblemen. On Saturday, at the Queen's express desire, Espartero visited her Majesty at Windsor, where apartments were provided for him, and was said to be highly gratified with the interview. He has taken the mansion, Abbey lodge, Regent's park, as his place of residence; and his suite have also engaged private reidences. The Duke de la Victoria is rather above the middle height, of a moderately robust figure. His countenance exhibits great firmness of mind, and, with a dark complexion, is well set off by a pair of handsome moustachios.

THE BRAZILS.—His Excellency Chevalier Aranjo Ribeiro has arrived in town. This gentleman is charged by the Brazilian government with authority to re-open negotiations with her Majesty's government, for the purpose of effecting a new commercial treaty between Great Britain and the empire of the Brazils.

THE ARISTOCRACY OF BIRTH.—In looking over the titles of the members of the House of Lords, it is curious how few of them can boast of antiquity. As it may be interesting to see the newness of our hereditary lawgivers, below is a classified list of their creations:—

21 DUKES—created		
From 3 to 400 years since	.....	1
— 2 to 300 —	.....	1
— 1 to 200 —	.....	13
Within 100 years	.....	6—21
20 MARQUISES—created		
From 2 to 300 years since	.....	1
Within 100 years	.....	19—20
114 EARLS—created		
From 4 to 500 years since	.....	1
— 3 to 400 —	.....	2
— 2 to 300 —	.....	10
— 1 to 200 —	.....	28
Within 100 years	.....	73—114
20 VISCOUNTS—created		
From 2 to 300 years since	.....	1
— 1 to 200 —	.....	2
Within 100 years	.....	17—20
211 BARONS—created		
From 5 to 600 years since	.....	6
— 4 to 500 —	.....	2
— 3 to 400 —	.....	4
— 2 to 300 —	.....	11
— 1 to 200 —	.....	7
Within 100 years	.....	181—211
Total	.....	386

By this it is seen that out of 386 dukes, marquises, earls, viscounts, and barons, only 40 can trace their titles more than 200 years back. How absurd, therefore, it is to talk of the "ancient nobility of England."

PREVENTION OF SMOKE.—A select committee of the House of Commons have presented a report, recommending that a bill should be brought into parliament, at an early period next session, to prohibit the production of smoke from furnaces and steam-engines; as they consider it quite practicable to suppress the nuisance. It is hinted that smoke from private fires may eventually be suppressed.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SHIPWRECKS.—This committee, which consisted chiefly of experienced naval officers, presented their report before the prorogation of parliament. The committee state that the loss of British ships during 1841, 1842, and 1843, as compared with those lost in 1836, 1837, and 1838, so far as could be ascertained from the returns registered at Lloyd's, has been less during the former than during the latter period, more especially as regards timber-laden ships and the lives of the crews employed on board. There has been a reduction in the loss of ships, in each year, of from 56 to 23, and a saving of 200 lives of seamen. The committee consider that no ship is seaworthy when her deck is lumbered with cargo, and recommend an extension of the act of parliament prohibiting the future deck-loading of ships. The report recommends the propriety of an inquiry being instituted by government as to the necessity of introducing an act for placing all steam vessels, carrying passengers, under the superintendence of government inspectors. The committee lay considerable stress on the necessity for appointing competent masters, mates, and pilots, for constructing efficient lighthouses and beacons, and carefully revising the charts now in use. They recommend the immediate attention of government to the construction of harbours of refuge, but offer no decided opinion as to the use of the floating breakwater; though they suggest that such national works, when constructed, should possess the advantage of having powerful batteries.

POOR LAWS.—A parliamentary return has been issued, headed, "A Return showing the number of in-door and out-door paupers relieved during the first week of the month of April, 1843, in the several unions comprised in each Assistant Poor-law Commissioner's District." It appears that there are nine assistant commissioners. The number of unions in the nine districts is 587. In-door paupers relieved in the week mentioned, 115,250. Out-door paupers relieved in the same period, 701,741. Total of paupers relieved in one week, 816,991. The population in 1841 was, in England and Wales, 13,762,853. The proportion of the total number of paupers to the population is at about 6 per cent. The return further shows the following two items:—Estimate for unions not included, and places not in unions, in-door paupers, 17,958; out-door, 109,346. Total, 127,304. Estimated totals of (paupers) England and Wales, in-door, 138,208; out-door, 811,687. Total, 944,295, out of a population, in 1841, of 15,906,829; being 6 per cent on the whole—six persons out of every hundred receiving parish relief!

HOPE OF THE ARISTOCRACY.—We are happy to hear that the recruiting of the army, which was renewed last spring, has been more successful than was stated to us some time back. Most of the regiments of the line are still considerably under their full establishment, and we feel confident that, were limited enlistment authorised, the army would be largely benefited by an influx of the very best class of recruits, who will never engage for life.—*Naval and Military Gazette.*

EMBODYING THE CHELSEA OUT-PENSIONERS.—We learn that the proposal for arming and embodying the pensioners is to be immediately carried into effect; and that the district officers commanding the pensioners have already received orders to look out for suitable armouries and stores for the clothing and accoutrements of the force. The veterans are to have bonnet, jacket, and trousers for uniform, and arms to be kept in each district depôt for the whole out-pensioners in the districts, between the ages of 55 and 65, who are fit for garrison duty. About two-thirds of the most effective portion of these men are to be embodied forthwith, and the remaining third are to be kept as a reserve ready to be called out in case of emergency.

FREE LABOUR.—The following petition was presented on Tuesday to the House of Lords by Lord Campbell, and to the House of Commons by Benjamin Hawes, Esq., M.P.:—

"The humble petition of the committee of the British and Foreign Anti-slavery society, sheweth—That your petitioners, deeply impressed with the fact that so long as slavery exists there is no reasonable prospect of the annihilation of the slave trade, and of extinguishing the sale and barter of human beings, and persuaded that one great means for terminating slavery will be found in giving the fullest encouragement to the produce of free labour, come from what country it may, by allowing of its introduction into the British markets on equal terms with that from the British colonies and plantations abroad; and fully believing that such a measure would be regarded both as an economical and moral argument for the abolition of slavery by slave-holding nations, and would prove as wise in policy as it is just in principle—your petitioners entreat your honourable House to pass such measures as shall allow of the introduction of the free-grown produce of all nations into the British markets, on equal terms with that from the British colonies, and which shall also provide for the introduction of the produce of nations where slavery at present unhappily exists, on similar terms, contemporaneously with the abolition of slavery by such nations. And your petitioners will ever pray. On behalf, and by order of the Committee, (Signed) JOHN SCOBLE, Secretary.—27, New Broad street, London, August 4, 1843."

MR C. BULLER'S PLAN OF COLONISATION FOR CANADA.—The plan is this: the local legislature to be invited to co-operate with the imperial government in restoring to the crown lands alienated but still waste; those lands to be appraised, and their total value to be formed into a government "stock;" debentures being issued to each owner for the amount of the present appraised value of his land, but not bearing interest, as no present income accrues from the land itself. On the re-sale of the lands by the crown after a better system, a proportionate dividend to be paid on all debentures, in part redemption of the stock; the rest of the proceeds to be expended in opening up and improving the country, by means of roads, bridges, churches, schools, and other amenities of civilised society; and all these to be brought into rapid operation by a loan publicly guaranteed. Government, through Mr Hope, the colonial under-secretary, in Lord Stanley's absence, promised to consider this plan; it has already awakened an interest among practical men in London; and the colonists are not unlikely to accept it as the only means yet suggested for rendering the waste lands profitable at once to the colony and the nominal owners. —*Spectator.*

LANDLORDS AND TENANTS IN IRELAND.—In the *Morning Chronicle* of Wednesday appears a letter from their able and well-known correspondent, "One who has whistled at the plough," on the above subject, which gives a most appalling account of the system that is pursued by the former towards the latter. We avail ourselves of a summary of the letter published, with comments, by the *Cheltenham Free Press*:—"The letter to which we are alluding is headed 'Strange things without a name,' and when we read its statements, we are not surprised that the things described should seem 'strange' to an Englishman, as certainly they are, with all the imperfections of our own system, 'without a name' in England. The writer thus commences:—

"'Each mile of road I travel over in Ireland—each additional hour I stay in any one place, affords stronger and stronger evidence of the social misery, and crime, and national poverty, produced by the laws which protect the landlord, and leave no security for the tenant. Under these laws a landlord may not only commit outrages the most indefensible in a moral sense, but may cautiously break the law itself to his own advantage.'

"He proceeds to illustrate the operation of this state of the law by cases, of which he says—'In describing them, I describe them from life, or rather from the life and death realities which, after careful observance and investigation, I find common as the clouds of night in the counties where I have lately been in the south.' Let us take one of these cases 'common as the clouds of night:'—

"'A tenant is known to be a thriving man. He is industrious and enterprising, trims at top, and cleans at bottom, his hedges; uproots his weeds: builds himself a new house with a slated roof; a new barn; a garden wall, and so on; drains his land, and makes compost of lime, and other fertilizers, to enrich it. And all this he does because he has a lease which secures to him the accruing profits. But this lease prevents the landlord from sharing in the increased wealth of the farm. The landlord is unscrupulous; he cannot, by all his manœuvres, get the tenant to fall into an arrear of rent to justify an expensive seizure, but he resolves on a bold measure. The tenant is a road-contractor; anything to cripple him as a road-contractor would cripple him as a farmer. Accordingly the landlord alleges a debt against him, throws him into prison, keeps him there three months, and he only escapes by taking the benefit of the Insolvent act. By this time his contract for the roads is lost, for while he was in prison it was unperformed. He comes out, however, and goes to law for wrongful imprisonment, and ultimately obtains £100 damages."

"But nevertheless, the man is ruined in the unequal combat of right against might. This looks like, and we hope is, a single instance, though the society where it could occur must be in a truly demoralised state. The writer goes on to show the many modes adopted to dispossess tenants when the landlords are determined on doing so rightfully or wrongfully—the putting in of distress after distress—the heaping up of law expenses—the selling of the crops for less than market price—then, when all else is gone, selling the household furniture, the bed, and the pot—and this, be it remembered, where nearly all the lands are let at a rack-rent—until the unfortunate tenant, ruined and broken-hearted, worn out by his hopeless struggle against the tyrant, is finally turned out, with perhaps a helpless family, to die of famine in the ditches, or to swell the numbers who annually perish from pestilence in the lanes and alleys of the towns. The means above described, however, are surpassed by another hell-born device, exceeding in ingenious wickedness anything we have ever heard or read of. Though long, we must extract the entire description in the writer's words:—

"'But this (distraint) is not the worst which the landlord can do, and does; remember, I say does, for I am speaking of an every-day drama in Irish agricultural life. A half-year's rent is due at Lady-day (25th March). The landlord has now a more favourable opportunity of crippling the tenant—of making him a pennyless, potatoless beggar—of wresting from him the land of which he actually holds a lease, because his religion is not the landlord's religion, or because his land may be let at a higher rent to an improving tenant, or that it may be let at a higher rent because the land has already been well improved by the man who dared to do so under the protection, as he thought (silly fool of an Irishman for such silly thinking), of the law! In anticipation of what I am about to say, some one will exclaim—'Oh! I see how it is to be: the 25th of March, and the 26th, on which this landlord makes his seizures, is seed time. I dare to say that the landlord takes the ploughs and the harrows, and, may be, the horses, and thus prevents the land from being ploughed, and harrowed, and sown.' But whoever you are that anticipate this, I tell you not to be so fast. The landlord, on seizing on the 25th of March, before one o'clock, for rent due at twelve, or on the 26th March, for rent due on the 25th, thus seizing that he may, by the arm of the law, make his leaseholding tenant unable to pay any rent next year, and thus get him ejected to have his farm let at a higher rent, the landlord does not seize the horses and farm implements. At a subsequent seizure he may take these; but first and foremost he takes the dunghill, and all the manure, in whatever shape, so that the potatoes to be planted in April must go without manure, and be left to spring up feeble and worthless. He does not give the tenant, or any of the tenant's friends for him, the chance of purchasing this manure; he has it taken off the farm, at whatever expense, at whatever risk, even though he violates the law by carrying it away without exposing it for sale (which he does in some cases). Oh! he knows the readiest and most efficient means of starving a family—of taking the last potato from those who do not starve so long as one is left. He might have taken the plough, and the harrows, the horses, and the carts; but he knows that the neighbours of the tenant would all lend a hand for a day with horses and ploughs, and have the land ploughed and planted. He therefore takes the manure, and, if possible, every seed potato, and every handful of seed oats and barley not yet sown, but which would be sown in the course of a few weeks. Having done this, he seizes on the implements and furniture, should the rent not be paid in the mean time, and sells all; having several sales over a space of several weeks, to increase the expenses, and make the ruin of the tenant whose land he wishes to let at a higher rent, or whose improvements, and their profits, he wishes to appropriate to himself, or whose religion is not his religion.'

"The blood curdles at reading of such horrible cruelties perpetrated by law:—

"If that the Heavens do not their visible spirits
Send quickly down to tame these vile offences,
Humanity must perforce prey on itself,
Like monsters of the deep."

"We have already so far exceeded our space, we must leave many other passages, exemplifying the unequal and mischievous operation of the law, which we would willingly extract. It is no wonder that such fearful oppression should sometimes produce retaliation as dreadful. In the words of the writer before us:—

"'In return for the deaths of whole families who die of famine, houseless, foodless, landless, helpless, and hopeless, in the ditches and on the highways, by the use and abuse of a law, which to execute and violate is not murder—in return for this, notice is given that he who abuses this law will be punished by the violation of another which is murder.'

And too often does the 'wild justice of revenge' stain with blood the hands of the Irish peasant."

THE PORTUGUESE TARIFF QUESTION.—There is every reason to think that the settlement of the Portuguese tariff question is going on swimmingly. The preliminary labours at Mivart's, it is understood, are active and uniterrupted, and the Duke de Palmella has received extra assistance. Senhor Florido, formerly an Oporto merchant, late minister of finance, and extensively employed in the preliminaries, has joined the duke, and is reported to be indefatigable. He has also another able coadjutor in Senhor Paiva Perreira, expressly sent over, and who has for some time past held the post of *employé* in the Foreign office at Lisbon, and besides acted as secretary to the duke there, during the time the first series of negotiations were carrying on. The number of subordinates is said to be in proportion.—*Morning Herald.*

General News.

FOREIGN.

SPAIN.

Affairs at Madrid daily assume a more alarming aspect. The state of things is best shown by the following extract from the *Times* correspondence, dated the 20th inst. :—

"The consequences of the insurrection are now beginning to develop themselves; and its authors find, by sad experience, that it is easier to raise the whirlwind than to ride on it. Yesterday, and the day before, cabinet councils were held to consider the alarming state of the army, and the propriety of declaring Madrid, as well as Cadiz and Barcelona, in a state of siege. The city of Cadiz has, by to-day's *Gazette*, been relieved from that infliction imposed on it by Concha, but the ministers are divided amongst themselves, and dare not decide anything for the repression of 'disaffection' (as they call it) in the capital—each party being pretty certain of being betrayed by their colleagues, and each fearing to be left, with all the odium of advising strong measures, to be driven out of office with ignominy if the attempt should fail, and (now that mischief and vengeance are afoot) probably to be assassinated also. There is in Madrid a strong but silent current of sullen discontent with the men who have lately dared to invade the peace of the capital, take possession of the palace and the Queen, discard the judicial and civic authorities, and replace them with their own partisan creatures. The National Guard, apparently dissolved, still retains, as I am credibly informed, 6,000 muskets, which Colonel Prim should have received when the order for disarmament was confided to him, but which he thought most prudent not to enforce by any measure beyond mere words, leaving to those who were awed by them to hand him their muskets. This body has now found sympathizers to a considerable extent amongst the very troops employed to coerce it. Regiments have been hastily sent out of Madrid to prevent the consequences of this unwelcome species of fraternization, and those who remain are closely guarded in their barracks, with sentinels posted around and outside at night to prevent desertion. Two regiments now in the city are known to be in a state of virtual if not open insubordination, and the others which might be brought to bear on them for the strict enforcement of discipline, are known to be in such a state of discontent, that it is judged more prudent to keep them at a safe distance from the contagion of disobedience."

A meeting of the different parties opposed to the Moderados had been held, with a view to unite their forces at the forthcoming election. These included the Esparterists, the adherents of the Infante Don Francisca de Paula, and Republicans. In consequence, however, of the censures of Espartero, the meeting divided and broke up, leaving the Republican party, who urged the necessity of a further reform of the constitution.

By a decree of the Government, Espartero and all his fellow-exiles have been deprived of their "titles, ranks, offices," &c. This decree was issued on the receipt of a protest signed by Espartero, denouncing the acts of the Provisional Government.

On the 17th the Queen and her sister left Madrid for La Granja, accompanied by their guardian, the Duke of Baylen, the Duke of Saragossa, Captain of the Halberdiers, the Marchioness of Valverde, M. Olozaga, &c. It having been reported that the excursion of her Majesty was the commencement of a system adopted by the military Moderado party to keep her in their own hands, and that they would eventually carry her to Pampeluna, the Ministry had been obliged to contradict the report, in the *Gazette* of the 19th, declaring it calumnious and unfounded.

A telegraphic despatch, dated Madrid, the 20th inst., announces that a commission has been named for a reform in legislation. M. Cortina is appointed president of the commission. A re-organisation of the National Guard is spoken of. O'Donnell leaves Madrid for the purpose of repairing to the Havannah. The members of the ayuntamiento have asked to be replaced in a legal form.

The Captain-General of Seville has issued a decree, appointing courts-martial at Cadiz, and condemning to death all who should be found to have any relation with the partisans of General Espartero. Even the *Eco del Comercio* is indignant at this gross act of illegality and blood—worthy of the Comte d'Espagne.

Barcelona still remained disturbed. When the new governor, Brigadier Prim, reached the city, in the evening of the 17th, he found the people arrayed in arms against the military, who, with Captain-General Arbuthnot, had retired into the citadel. An attempt to take possession of the Atarrazanas, then occupied by the Patulea and Nationals, made at Prim's suggestion, having failed, the general was beaten, and in an instant the citizens crowded the streets, determined to repel any attack of the governor, who had, it appears, announced the intention of supporting the authority of Government at any price. Prim endeavoured in vain to put a stop to these excesses. The junta continued in consultation nearly the whole night, and ultimately resolved to send deputies to all the juntas of the kingdom with an invitation to make common cause with them in demanding the creation of a central junta. Brigadier Prim had an interview, on the 18th, with the junta and the ayuntamiento, the result of which had not transpired. The latest intelligence, which is of a more favourable character for the Government, is conveyed in the following telegraphic despatch :—

"On the 21st, at a numerous meeting, composed of the members of the junta, the municipality and provincial deputation, the commanders of the national guard, &c., and at which Prim and Milans were present, it was decided, by a large majority, that the troops should re-occupy the Atarrazanas; that Arbuthnot should remain Captain-General; that Prim should dispose of the services of the free battalion; and that the authorities should resume their functions until the return from Madrid of the delegates, who were to be sent there with a representation.

"The situation of Barcelona improved on the 23d. The legal authorities resumed their functions. The junta, in fact, was dissolved. Its president and several of its members left for Madrid. The province of Barcelona had declared against the junta. Prim had declared positively that he would support the Lopez ministry. Eight battalions were incessantly expected at Barcelona. General Arbuthnot remained in the citadel; he had sent his resignation to the Government."

M. Mendizabal had reached Paris in safety. Figueiras had declared in favour of the formation of a central junta.

AMERICA.

The New York packet ship, Independence, brings advices six days later than the previous arrival.

It appears by the following paragraph, extracted from the *Bangor Democrat*, that some difficulty on the subject of the Maine border has arisen amongst the commissioners :—

"The commissioners appointed by Maine and Massachusetts, to examine the claims of settlers on the St John and run out their lots, have taken a recess. The weather has been very unfavourable during the time that they have been employed, and we understand that they require a much longer time for its completion than was at first supposed, as the settlers are more numerous, and the claims more difficult to be adjusted, than seems to have been anticipated. Cases, too, arise which the commissioners cannot dispose of without additional authority. They will renew their labours on the 1st of September. It is reported that the boundary commissioners have disagreed about the meaning of the language of the treaty, and that one of the surveying parties has suspended operations in consequence."

Mr Wickliffe, the postmaster-general, had been stabbed on board a steamer between Portsmouth and Baltimore, by a Mr Gardiner, who, it is stated, took this mode of revenging himself on Mr Wickliffe, because that gentleman refused to interfere to secure him an office.

The Philadelphia papers contain accounts of a fearful hurricane which had passed over that city and the surrounding country. Many parts of the city and some of the adjacent lands were deluged. Several bridges, houses, trees, fences, and haystacks were swept away, and some lives were lost.

Buenos Ayres had been visited by a heavy storm, which commenced on the 29th of May, and continued till the afternoon of the 30th. It had caused great damage to the shipping. The papers contain lengthened details of matters in relation to the difficulty between Admiral Purvis and Commodore Brown.

The advices from Monte Video state, that about 2,500 French, Italians, and Germans had taken up arms in defence of this place. General Rivera was at no great distance, with the greater part of his forces, and was supposed to be only waiting a convenient opportunity to make a general attack on Oribe, a Buenos Ayrean general, who had intrenched himself within sight of the city.

FRANCE.

Another significant indication of the state of public feeling has occurred at Rennes. The Duke and Duchess de Nemours continued their excursion through the western departments of France. At Rennes their reception by the people was cold, and the duke had to reply to a speech of the President of the Civil Tribunal, which, although not couched in such plain terms as that of the Mayor of Mans, conveyed, nevertheless, some truth which a prince does not always like to hear. The President, alluding to the military tendency with which the government had been lately reproached, said, "The time, fortunately, no longer exists when the entire of France was one immense camp—when the highest power of the state had for its principal mission to defend the independence of the nation, which was incessantly menaced on all sides. The place of the chief of the state might then be at the head of our armies; but now the sword can no longer be the exclusive attribute of the constitutional royalty." He then invited the prince to imitate the example of his brother the Duke of Orleans, and prepare himself by deep and serious studies for the task which the constitution attributes to the chief of the state, and assured him, that, acquiring a more intimate knowledge of the wants of the people, "he would convince himself more and more that a complete identity between the dynasty and the nation was for both the surest guarantee of glory and security." The prince replied, that if the exalted mission alluded to by the President devolved upon him, he would devote himself entirely to the discharge of his duties, and endeavour to insure to France the precious advantages which it enjoyed. This presumptuous president had not, up to the latest accounts, been dismissed.

The government of Louis Philippe appears to have got nothing but damage from their arbitrary dismissal of the Mayor of Mans for a similar breach of courtly propriety. Notwithstanding this mark of disapprobation from their sovereign, the citizens of Mans made bold to re-elect the late Mayor, M. Trouvé Chauvel, and five other avowed democrats. It was understood at Paris, in the ministerial circles, that M. Salvandy would succeed M. Teste as minister for public works. It was said in the same quarters that "the embassy to Spain had been offered to M. Salvandy, and declined from a very creditable feeling of delicacy towards a fallen foe—that is, lest his re-appearance at Madrid might be construed into a triumph over the ex-Regent.

The Queen of the Belgians arrived at the chateau d'Eu on the 23rd, and the *Moniteur Parisien* announces that the Prince de Joinville and the Duke d'Aumale were to honour with their presence the regattas of Havre on Sunday.

The *Toulonnais* of the 20th inst brings news from Algiers of the 15th. The murder of a French soldier by the Arabs, in the streets of that city, had excited considerable irritation among the European population. Two expeditionary columns had been obliged to suspend their operations in consequence of the prevalence of the sirocco, and returned, the one to Orleans-Ville, and the other to Boghar. The latter, commanded by Colonel Youssouf, had penetrated into the desert, and brought back 28,000 sheep, and 1,700 oxen, captured from the Beni-Yacoubs. Abd-el-Kader was still in the field, in the province of Oran.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

THE SLAVE-TRADE.—The following is an extract from a private letter which we have seen, dated Havana, July 23, 1843 :—"It is a most lamentable fact that the detested inhuman traffic, the slave trade, continues to be carried on. Notwithstanding the redoubled activity of her Majesty's officers in denouncing every case which comes within their knowledge, the perpetrators go safely through with their enterprise, and their crimes are hidden from the Captain-general Valdez by subordinate authorities, who, in the most open manner, lend themselves to be bribed for the connivance they extend to the guilty miscreants engaged in the horrid trade."

BOUNDARIES OF BRITISH AND PORTUGUESE GUIANA.—We find from the *Journal do Commercio*, of the 8th of June, that there is a dispute between the governments of Brazil and England, respecting the ownership of between fifty to sixty thousand square miles of territory on the upper part of the Essequibo river, which is claimed by the Brazilians as part of what was formerly known as Portuguese Guiana, and by our government as part of the territory ceded to England by the Dutch in 1814. According to the statement of Senhor Vasconcellos, in the Brazilian chamber, the decision of the question will either reduce the British territory of Demerara and Berbice to 12,300 square miles, or increase it to 76,000. Both Senhor Vasconcellos and Senhor C. Leon, the Brazilian minister of foreign affairs, profess to believe that the object of England in claiming the disputed territory is to get the control of the navigation of the Amazon, as they say it already has of the Oronooko and the Uruguay.

The report of the murder of Colonel Stoddart and Captain Conolly, by order of the Ameer of Bokhara, has been confirmed by a narrative from Saller Mohammed. It appears that, on the 17th June, 1842, on the receipt of the news of the disasters at Cabul, they were led out of their prison into a sort of square. Their graves, which were already dug, were shown to them; and Colonel Stoddart, who loudly exclaimed against the treacherous and cruel conduct of the Ameer, was first dispatched, his head being severed from the body with a knife. Then Captain Conolly was informed by the chief executioner that the Ameer would spare his life, provided he would turn mussulman. The undaunted Englishman briefly, but firmly, rejected the proposal, and saying, "I am prepared to die," streched forth his neck, and he was instantly decapitated as his companion had been just before. Their bodies were immediately buried.

MR GEORGE THOMPSON.—The *Calcutta Star*, of June 5th, mentions a fact of which we have been some days in possession, that Mr G. Thompson has accepted the post of envoy from the Emperor of Delhi to Queen Victoria, before whom he is to lay a statement of the grievances under which his Majesty labours. The *Star* states the monthly allowance of 1000 rupees, and the traveling expenses from Calcutta to Delhi, and from Delhi to London, at 3000 rupees. We have heard them fixed at 12,000 rupees. We hope Mr Thompson will take the precaution of having a better guarantee for remuneration than his Majesty's word. Rajah Rammohun Roy was thus employed by the descendant of Timur, under a solemn engagement for the payment of the specified sum. His son was only a suitor at the imperial durbar for the sums due to the rajah; but he sued in vain, and the money, as far as we can learn, has never been paid to this day.—*Friend of India.*

ESPARTERO AT LISBON.—The brutality with which Espartero has been treated here becomes more salient upon a calm review of all the circumstances of the case, and of the relations, past and present, between Spain and Portugal. There never has been witnessed a more fearful picture of justly excited indignation than the Regent presented when the hostile decision of ministers was communicated to him, and when he learned that that decision was irrevocable. He stamped, and foamed, and paced the deck of the Malabar, like a madman, almost wept tears of rage, and called heaven and earth to witness that there never was injustice and ingratitude to equal that which he had experienced from the existing government of Portugal. I shall presently show that this assumption of the Regent was well founded. His ebullition of anger, however, was but short-lived; for he speedily checked the headlong flow of feeling, and apologised to Lord Howard de Walden for his excess of momentary excitement. His long, sallow, and swarthy face enhanced the gloominess of his aspect under the pressure of misfortune. "You will make allowance," he said to Lord Howard, "for my naturally excited feelings. I did not expect to be hunted like a mad dog, from the threshold of a friendly ally, of a neighbouring power, and almost an identical nation, a country, too, with which I had always cultivated peaceful relations, and a government to which I had been especially friendly. I vow to God that they are guilty of the basest and blackest ingratitude." The Regent was right, and such is the opinion of every Englishman here, and of every impartial foreigner, from the British envoy down to the humblest resident.—*Times Correspondent.*

The farcical historiographers of the Portuguese press chronicle contemporary events in Great Britain thus :—the *Patriota*, in its summary of the news by the last packet, says—"In Scotland the disturbances have increased in the principality of Wales, because the jury absolved 60 of the Rebequistas."

TAHITI.—A copy of the following curious letter, in which Queen Pomare solicits the protection of the English government against France, has been received in the city :—

"*Tahiti, Jan.* 23, 1843.

"My dear Friend and Sister Queen Victoria, Queen of Great Britain—

"Health and peace to you, and saved may you be by Jehovah, the foundation of our power as queens of our respective countries. We dwell in peace from the arrangements made by our predecessors.

"This is my speech to you, my sister friend. Commiserate me in my affliction, in my helplessness, and in the difficulties in which my nation is involved with France.

"The existing protectorate government of France in my dominions I do not acknowledge. I knew nothing of what my chiefs and the French consul had done, before I wrote to you by Captain Jones, I being absent at Raiate.

"On the arrival of the French Admiral, A. Du Petit Thouars, the same chiefs who formerly signed the document requesting French protection assembled—viz., the three governors and Paraita, the person who was left in charge at Papeete (Paraita is the root of this great evil), the French Admiral and the French Consul, after having completed their design in signing the document, sent it over to me at Moorea, through the medium of my messengers, Tairapa and Mr Simpson, for my signature.

"Tairapa said to me, 'Pomare, write your name under this document. If you do not write your name, you must pay a fine of 10,000 dollars—5,000 to-morrow, and 5,000 the following day; and should the first payment be delayed beyond 2 o'clock the first day, hostilities will be commenced and your land taken.'

"On account of this threat, against my will I signed my name. I was compelled to sign it, and because I was afraid, for the British and American subjects residing on my land (in case of hostilities) would have been indiscriminately massacred; no regard would have been paid to parties.

"This is the way my government has been taken from me, and constituted into a French government.

"My government is taken from me by my enemies, Paraita, Hitate, Tati, and others connected with them; it was they who combined and entered into agreement with the French. They have banished me, that I should not be sovereign of Tahiti; that they should be kings, and also their children.

"And now, my friend, think of me, have compassion on me, and assist me; let it be powerful, let it be timely and saving, that I may be reinstated in my government; let it be prompted by the feeling which caused the Mes siah to come into our world to save you and me.

"Have compassion on me in my present trouble, in my affliction and great helplessness.

"Do not cast me away, assist me quickly, my friend. I run to you for refuge, to be covered under your great shadow, the same as afforded to my fathers by your fathers, who are now dead, and whose kingdoms have descended to us, the weaker vessels.

"I renew that agreement; let it be lasting and for ever. Let its continuance extend not only to ourselves and children, but to our children's children. My friend, do not by any means separate our friendship. This is my true wish.

"I now deliver up to you, my friend, my last effort; my only hope of being restored is in you. Be quick to help me, for I am nearly dead; I am like a captive pursued by a warrior and nearly taken, whose spear is close to me.

"The time is very nigh when I fear I shall lose my government and my land.

"My friend, send quickly a lage ship of war to assist me. A French ship of war is daily expected here—speedily send a ship of war to protect me, and I shall be saved.

"It is my wish that the Admiral may speedily come to Tahiti. If he cannot speedily come, I wish a large ship of war may come just at this present time.

"Continually send here your ships of war; let not one month pass away without one, until all my present difficulties are over.

"I have also at this time written a letter to your Admiral on the Spanish coast to come to Tahiti and assist me.

"Health and peace to you, may you be blessed, my sister friend, Queen of Great Britain, &c.

"POMARE, Queen of Tahiti."

Riot at Jerusalem.—Private letters from Beyrout, of the 3rd inst, states that, M. de Lentivy, the newly-appointed French consul at Jerusalem, having imprudently hoisted the tricoloured flag at the consulate on the 27th ult., in commemoration of the revolution of 1830, the people had become infuriated at a proceeding hitherto without example in the holy city of the Moslems, and threatened, if the offensive emblem were not instantly taken down, to sound the signal of the "ghuzy," or extermination of the infidels. M. de Lentivy refusing to comply with this injunction, the mob attacked the consulate, shots were exchanged, and several persons wounded, and the tumult only ended when the flag was removed.

Italy.—Letters have been received from the Roman states, giving an account of the agitation and troubles which have arisen there. It seems that an insurrection was prepared for the month of August, in Sicily and Naples, as well as in the legations. The king of Naples had, however, taken every precaution. He had sent a number of troops to Sicily, and has taken steps to fortify Messina and Syracuse. It was on the rumour of some troubles in Naples that the liberals of Ravenna thought the time was come to make a demonstration. The Papal legate, Spinola, was, however, on his guard, and most of those suspected were seized. Many, however, escaped to the coast. It is said that the Austrian garrison of Ferrara was augmented. The Duke of Modena's police minister, Ricci, has not only been dismissed in disgrace, but he has thought it necessary to fly and hide himself, as implicated in these troubles.

Greece.—A letter from Athens of the 10th inst, states that the Greek government has suspended 25 professors of the university, in compliance, it is said, with the desire of the protecting powers, who insisted on the strictest system of economy being introduced into the finances. The crops had suffered severely in most of the provinces, and the greatest misery pervaded the whole country.

Servia.—The *Augsburg Gazette* announces that, in an assembly of the Servian notables, held on the 8th inst at Kracojewatz, Waczicz and Petroniewicz had themselves acknowledged the necessity of their departure. They arrived at Belgrade on the 14th, and immediately embarked for Widden, where they were to wait until their fate should be definitively fixed. It was expected that the berat of investiture of Prince Alexander would be shortly published.

Turkey.—Accounts from Constantinople, of the 7th inst, state that the Turkish fleet still continued to hover about the Dardanelles, followed by a French man-of-war steamer. Large bodies of Turkish troops were being concentrated at Adrianople, which, at a period when the Divan professed themselves anxious for retrenchment, caused some surprise. Nothing satisfactory had been concluded by the commissioners appointed to arrange the existing difficulties between Persia and the Porte.

Letters from Constantinople mention reports posterior to those transmitted by Colonel Sheil, affirming that Colonel Stoddart and Captain Conolly were still alive in Bokhara; these reports had been received through Persia, India, and subsequently from "several Bokhara gentlemen of influence, now on the way to the Hadj, or pilgrimage to Mecca, and a person upon whose veracity we place the most implict reliance."

The Opera House at Berlin.—The *Prussian State Gazette*, of August 20th, says—"Our opera house fell a prey to the flames last night, after having stood exactly 100 years. There is no reason to believe that the fire was caused by any negligence, and nothing positive can yet be affirmed respecting the origin of the fire. An officer on guard, who first saw it, immediately hastened with his men to the theatre, and saved a small part of the furniture, and the greater portion of the very valuable music."

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

The Late Fatal Duel.—George Gulliver, surgeon in the horse guards blue, and Lieutenant Cuddy, of the same regiment, took their trials in the central criminal court on Friday morning. The judges, Mr Justice Williams and Mr Baron Rolfe, having taken their seats, and the indictment having been read, charging both the prisoners as parties aiding and abetting in the death of Colonel Fawcett, the attorney-general said, after having carefully examined the deposition against him, he thought the charge could not be sustained against Gulliver. He then left the dock, and the trial of Lieutenant Cuddy was proceeded with. The jury, after having heard the evidence against him, retired for nearly three hours, and on their return to court, gave a verdict of "Not guilty." Alexander Thompson Munro, and Duncan Trevor Grant, included in the same indictment, were called, but did not appear.

Refusal to be Sworn.—At Clerkenwell, George Caney was charged with stealing seven of Scott's novels, the property of Mrs Mary Scriven, the proprietor of a circulating library in Merlin's place, Wilmington square. The case had been previously remanded. Miss Elizabeth Tamlyn, an elderly maid, the sister of the prosecutrix, was placed in the witness box, but when the book was tendered her, she refused to take the glove from her hand and to be sworn.

Mr Greenwood: Be sworn, if you please, madam.—Miss Tamlyn: I will not be sworn.—Why?—Because I must have the prisoner discharged. Pshaw! do you think I'd prosecute the poor lad for a few paltry books? He has been already imprisoned since Friday, and that is quite enough punishment for his offence—too much.—Let the judge at the trial decide upon that.—Indeed I won't. The property belongs more to me than to the judge. What affair is it of the judge's whether I lose the property or not?—You had better be sworn. Consider you owe a duty to society which you are bound to fulfil.—I will not be sworn, and there is an end of it.—Then I will bind you over to prosecute at the Old Bailey.—I won't prosecute.—Then you must go to prison.—And to prison I'll go.—Perhaps you think these are empty threats; but I will read the act of parliament, which empowers me to send you to prison for 14 days for refusing to be sworn.

The magistrate then read that portion of the act, and seeing that it was useless to press her further, ordered the depositions of the other witnesses to be taken, and the witnesses to be bound over to prosecute, Miss Tamlyn included.

The Slave Trade.—On Thursday, at the Central Criminal court, the grand jury returned true bills against Pedro de Zulueta the younger, a respectable city merchant, Thomas Jennings, and Thomas Bernados, mariners, for felony. The charge had been preferred directly before the grand jury, without the intervention of a magistrate. Sir George Stephen appeared for the prosecution, Mr Clarkson for Mr de Zulueta, who was brought up in custody. The other prisoners were not in court. The indictment charged the prisoners and two other persons with having feloniously equipped and employed a certain vessel, called the Augusta, for the purpose of trading in slaves, for which offence he is liable to 14 years' transportation. In other counts the parties were charged with equipping the vessel for the purchase of slaves, and for the purpose of purchasing persons to be dealt with as slaves. Mr de Zulueta pleaded "Not Guilty." Application was made to admit him to bail; and he entered into his own recognisance in £6,000, and one surety in £2,000, to appear when called on. The witnesses for the prosecution were Colonel Edward Nicholls, R.N., the Honourable Captain Denman, and Captain Hill. The trial is to be postponed to the next session of the court.

Commission of Lunacy.—On Wednesday a commission of lunacy was held at the Golden Lion Tavern, Camberwell-green, before Mr Commissioner Winslow, and a jury of thirteen gentlemen, on Mr George Tibbs, an inmate of Dr Armstrong's Asylum, Peckham-house, Peckham. Mr J. Hill, the resident surgeon of the establishment, gave the following evidence:—

"The lunatic laboured under the following extraordinary delusions:—He believed he was born in Peckham-house; but at the age of two months he was removed to the George Inn, Farnborough, or to Crofton-hall; that he was christened by the name of 'I, George Tibbs, George III.,' and that he was George III. That he had large property in the funds and in land. The rentals of his houses amounted to from two to ten thousand a year, and that he had ninety millions of money in the funds, that the whole of the houses about Peckham formed part of his estate, that the three brass rings he wore he would not part with for £1,000 each. He also stated that on the night of the 25th of June, some rascals had burnt him with their burning glasses, and had made large holes in various parts of his person, with their burning glasses; that they had tormented him for several days past, and if they did not leave off, he would send them a deputation from the fireworks, which had cost his father ninety millions, as after that he should be able to burn the villains and annihilate them. He also considered there were twenty-one shillings in a pound, and twenty-four pence in a shilling, and nine pence in copper in a sixpence. Witness had no hesitation in saying that Mr Tibbs was a lunatic, and without lucid intervals."

After hearing evidence to the same effect from other parties, the jury returned the verdict, "That George Tibbs had been a lunatic ever since the 15th of September, 1838, and incapable of managing his affairs." The lunatic was formerly the landlord of the George Inn, Farnborough, and at the commencement of September, 1838, through excessive drinking, was attacked with *delirium tremens*, which was followed by insanity.

Father Mathew's Temperance Mission.—On Wednesday Father Mathew breakfasted with the Marquis of Clanricarde, and dispensed the pledge near the Penitentiary in Westminister. Mr. Lawrence, a member of the American Congress, was on the platform; and he promised Father Mathew a warm reception should he visit the United States. While he was officiating on the same spot on Thursday, the Duke of Wellington passed on horseback: the duke stopped for a little while, and exchanged salutations with the philanthropist. The proceedings of Father Mathew continued until after seven o'clock, and it was computed that from 800 to 900 persons had taken the pledge during the day. On Friday Bermondsey was the scene of his labours; a piece of ground near the Greenwich Railway being chosen as the spot for administering the pledge. His call on the people to come forward was met with shouts of disapprobation and derisive laughter, and in order to frustrate the labours of the apostle, a large body of fellows, chiefly dockmen and labourers in the tanyards, took possession of the space within the barrier. A body of police endeavoured to clear the barrier, but were violently struck in the execution of their duty. Whilst Father Mathew was administering the pledge to some females on the platform, some stones were thrown at him from the back of the crowd. Shortly after, a gang of the ruffians were discovered in the rear of the platform, making preparations to cut the ropes fastening its cross supporters to the uprights. Several most disgraceful scenes occurred during the day, and only about 300 received the pledge. Father Mather again visited Bermondsey on Saturday with better success. On Sunday, after morning service, about 8,000 persons assembled near the railway station, Stratford, to hear and see the "Apostle of Temperance." In the course of his speech Father Mathew said:—

"The alarm of those members of the church who wrote letters in newspapers and periodicals against him was groundless. He was shortly going to Norwich, and he should there be a guest of the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of that diocese, who was most anxious to aid him in carrying out this great temperance movement. The rev. prelate saw no cause for alarm. He was convinced that it was his duty to put a stop to the rushing tide of evil. Since he had been in London he had had the happiness to induce the servants in some noblemen's and gentlemen's families to become teetotallers, and the consequence was, that the money allowed them for beer, which they were almost bound to drink, would be put into a savings'-bank for their future benefit. If the money that had been spent in this country upon intoxicating liquors for the last 50 years could be put together, it would be found enough to purchase the fee-simple of the great metropolis itself."

Mr Teare said that if the Archbishop of Canterbury would come out and promulgate the grand doctrine of temperance through the country, he (Mr Teare) would leave Father Mathew and be clerk to his grace. About 600 took the pledge during the day.—On Monday Father Mathew visited Hackney, where a respectable audience assembled to meet him. He said that he regretted to see, on Sunday, at Stratford, that not more than 500 of the Irish labourers took the pledge. They seem to fear that if they abstained from malt liquor they might get into disfavour with the publicans, and perhaps be unable to find employment; but he feared this was only a subterfuge. They should be deterred by no such fears, for if all the labouring men became teetotallers, the publicans and others must employ them, whether they liked it or not, as they could not do without labour—(Cheers). (Here the rev. gentleman was interrupted by the loud braying of an ass in an adjoining stable, which produced a shout of laughter from the crowd.) "Now listen, my friends, to that ass—(laughter); I will venture to say that if you were to place before him a tub of the best brewed porter, a tub of the finest gin, and a bucket of clear cold water, the animal would only drink the water"—(Cheers, laughter, and cries of "Very true.") Several batches came forward during the day, and received the pledge.

More Destructive Fires.—On Thursday morning a destructive fire broke out upon the premises occupied by Messrs. Mandeville, rope line manufacturers, 101, Kent-street, Borough. The warehouse, which first took fire, is by the side of a small brook or drain, and which is 200 feet in length, and in width 30 feet. It was filled with some thousand bales of hemp and flax; besides which there was an immense pile of cane in stock. From the inflam-

mable nature of the stock, consisting almost entirely of hemp, flax, and canvas, and being one of the largest in the neighbourhood of London, the flames spread with fearful rapidity. Although twelve engines were soon deluging the flames, which spread over the whole of the very extensive range of warehouses and sheds, all was destroyed. The property was insured for £3,700; but the loss is said to be greater. Six houses in Castle-street were damaged. —The cooperage of Mr Bourne, in Cornwall-road, Lambeth, was destroyed on the same morning, and the dwelling-house much injured. Soon after the alarm, Mr and Mrs Bourne threw themselves from the second floor window; the lady breaking an arm and several ribs; Mr Bourne suffering less injury. Both were carried to Guy's Hospital. Mr Bourne's property was insured.

Attempt to Murder.—On the same day, James Aberdine, called a labourer, but also the keeper of a "general shop" in a poor part of Westminster, was tried for attempting to murder his son and infant daughter. The man had attempted to kill the little girl and a son, and afterwards himself, with a hatchet; also wounding his wife in her struggle to stop him. Both the children recovered. Dread of destitution was the motive; and the jury acquitted him on the ground of insanity.

Atrocious Attempt to Extort Money.—On the same day George William Hamilton, who formerly called himself a solicitor, but who was described in the indictment as a labourer, was convicted of attempting to extort money from Miss Jesselina Hopper, of Derby place, Bayswater. He had threatened to publish imputations on her character in the *Satirist*, and to subpœna her as witness against a brothel, as if she frequented it. He was sentenced to be transported for fourteen years.

Narrow Escape.—A practical joke at Windsor, on Friday, nearly proved fatal. Shields, a private in the 1st Regiment of Life Guards, had laid a wager that a comrade, Bennett, could not shave him without drawing blood. Bennett had just succeeded, when he said, "Now I will give you a finishing-stroke," —intending to startle Shields by drawing the *back* of the razor across his throat; but unluckily he used the sharp edge by mistake, and divided several arteries. The surgeon was promptly in attendance, and closed up the wound, though not before an alarming effusion of blood.

PROVINCIAL.

STATE OF SOUTH WALES.

The *Times'* correspondent, writing from Neath, on Tuesday evening last, says — "The news having reached me at Swansea this morning, that an attack had been made in the night upon the Mines Royal copperworks, by a body of the men on strike, I immediately came over here, and upon inquiry I find that the acting proprietor of the Mines Royal works, which are situated about a mile and a half from this town, succeeded yesterday in inducing a few of the men, about sixteen or eighteen in number, to resume their work at the reduced wages. The workmen proceeded to the works, the gates of which were kept closed with a view of protecting them. They commenced lighting the furnaces, and were proceeding with their several employments, when at about the middle of the night they were alarmed by the noise of a multitude of men, about 200, who commenced an attack upon the works, and forced one of the gates from the hinges. The workmen who were inside, being in terror of their lives, immediately left the work and fled; and the watchman hid himself. The mob then entered the works, put out the fires, and, it is said, partly pulled down one of the furnaces, destroyed some of the tiles on the shed, and broke the windows of the workmen's houses in the Skewen, and then departed. The works, therefore, are again stopped. The workmen at the tin works at Cwm Avon are on strike since Saturday, not on account of any proposed reduction in wages, but that they refuse to work any longer without being paid their wages in money, and not in goods from the shop."

A daring outrage was committed at Llanon on Tuesday. A party of rioters, many hundreds in number, headed by Rebecca, beset the house of Mr Edwards, an impropriator of tithes, and shot at him through the window as he lay ill in bed; his wife and daughter being endangered by the shots. Miss Edwards at length induced them to depart; but they ravaged the garden. Either simultaneously with these depredations, or soon after they were committed, a party of the desperadoes proceeded to the house of William Bassett, the gamekeeper, who resided in a cottage, in a wood, a short distance from Gellywernen house. On hearing of their approach, the gamekeeper, against whom they had sworn vengeance, fled for refuge to the wood, leaving his wife and children at home. The Rebeccaites, on their entering the house, discharged a gun or pistol, containing powder only, nearly into the face of the wife, who had a child, which was slightly wounded, in her arms at the time. On their return the following incident occurred:—

When "Becca" and her party returned through Llanon, it was between two and three o'clock on Wednesday morning. The number of persons who returned through the village was stated to us to be about 500, several of the party having previously dispersed in different directions. With the exception of the occasional firing of a gun, they made no noise on their return. When they arrived opposite Mr Goring Thomas's house, in the village of Llanon, which was vacant, but is being prepared for the reception of Mr F. Frederick, who has rented it for the sporting season, some of them threw stones at the windows, but Rebecca immediately stopped them, by calling out in English, "Now, girls, if you are my daughters, leave that house alone until I command you another time." They instantly desisted, but not before thirty panes of glass had been broken.

An encounter took place on Thursday between the constables of Haverfordwest and the Rebeccaites, the former of whom went to guard a gate threatened by the latter. Very soon after their arrival at the gate, Rebecca and her daughters, consisting of about 200 horse and foot, made their appearance, when the special constables, about twenty-five in number, assisted by several respectable townsmen, most valiantly attacked Rebecca, who was mounted upon a charger, and carried a double-barreled percussion gun, loaded with ball cartridge, when in the scuffle one of the barrels went off and lodged the contents in the loins of the horse, and the constable (Williams) succeeded in securing the gun. The second barrel was loaded with ball. Rebecca, finding herself disarmed, galloped off; the horse, however, fell dead at the distance of 100 yards. Unfortunately, in the darkness of the night, the rider escaped. In the mean time a fierce contest took place between the constables and the rioters, when two of the latter were captured. Their faces were blackened, and they were otherwise disguised. Finding themselves vigorously attacked by the constabulary force, the rioters fled in all directions. The cavalry and marines, accompanied by Captain Peel (a county magistrate), arrived at the spot when the affray was over, and patroled the roads during the night. The event has excited the greatest commotion in the town.

On Friday a numerous meeting took place in Mynydd-Selen, Carmarthenshire, when about from 3,000 to 4,000 persons were present. William Chambers, jun., Esq., of Llanelly, was called to the chair, and after various speeches, a memorial to her Majesty was adopted, touching on their various grievances, such as the turnpike gates, the poor law, tithes, the increase of county stock and rent. The petition concludes—

"That the petitioners most humbly and earnestly implore her Majesty to exercise the august prerogative for the benefit of the country, and thereby to dissolve the present and to convoke a new parliament, with directions to consider the various grievances of the country, and as to ameliorating the same; and also to devise measures to restore the commercial prosperity of the country generally, whereby the demand may be commensurate to the supply—a course which would conduce to the prosperity of the whole country, and your petitioners amongst the number."

Mr Rees, of Llanelly, a magistrate, moved an amendment on the ground that the memorial was too long. The original resolution was carried by a large majority, and the meeting separated, with three cheers for the Queen. A meeting for a similar purpose was held at Newcastle-Emlyn on Friday. Mr Rees Goring Thomas in the chair. Of these meetings the *Times* says—

"We have received accounts of two different meetings—one at Swansea, the other at Newcastle-Emlyn; and at both of these meetings there were present magistrates and other gentlemen, who evinced a praiseworthy, although a tardy, anxiety to ascertain the sentiments of the people, and to learn what were the grievances for which they claimed redress. We have no reason for doubting but that the numerous expressions of sympathy for the condition of the farmers were as sincere and cordial as those who uttered them intended them to appear; we only regret that the same anxiety and cordiality were not manifested some months ago. However, we are glad to find that the best measures for the suppression, have been at last adopted by those who have the most to fear from the continuance, of local turbulence."

Four men, inhabitants of Abergwilly or the neighbourhood, were apprehended this evening, charged with having been concerned in the destruction of Glangwilly gate last night.—*Welshman of Friday.*

Great Turn-out of Miners.—The colliery proprietors of West Cumberland, understanding that there was a general strike agreed upon by their workmen, to take place on the 1st of October, last week held a meeting, and came to the resolution not to admit any one into their pits until he had renounced the union. This brought on at once the stand-out, and at present the pits in the whole of the district are standing still. Great meetings are held daily in different places, and Mr Brophy, the delegate from the National union of Newcastle, addresses them in the most exciting and encouraging language. Several vessels in the ports along the coast are waiting for coals, but at present there is no prospect of a reconciliation. The stand-out, while its lasts, creates a complete stagnation in all the ports which are dependent on coal exportation. It is hoped a mutual understanding will shortly take place, and all just cause of complaint be removed.—*Carlisle Journal.*

Mr Cobden and Mr Bright were advertised to meet the farmers of Worcestershire, on Wednesday last, at Worcester; but, in consequence of representations having been made to them by a considerable number of practical agriculturists, that the harvest would materially lessen the attendance of farmers, the meeting has been postponed until after harvest, when due notice will be given throughout the county. We understand that the county agricultural meetings of the League will be suspended until after harvest.—*Chronicle.*

A Member of Parliament.—At the Chester assizes, on Friday, a verdict of £3,849 was given against Mr T. Grimsditch, M.P. for Macclesfield, for money to that amount borrowed of Miss Duncalf, whom he called "cousin," and against whose claim he had in vain pleaded "previous payment," and the "statute of limitations."

Refusing to be Sworn.—At the Liverpool assizes an old woman, whose evidence was required in a bigamy case, refused to be sworn. She said she had been a member of the church of England, but that she was then "trying to be an Israelite," which she subsequently explained, by stating that she had been converted to the sect of Johanna Southcott's believers. Mr Justice Wightman threatened her with imprisonment, but the old lady was steadfast, and was finally discharged, the grand jury finding the bill without her testimony.

Fall of Frogs.—A most extraordinary phenomenon accompanied the heavy fall of rain that fell on Monday night, namely, an innumerable quantity of frogs of small size. Thousands of them must have fallen during the evening, and early part of Monday night. They were to be seen in immense numbers in the town of Stourbridge and its neighbourhood, far removed from any place in which they could have been bred.—*Worcester Chronicle.*

Dreadful Loss of Life in a Coal Pit.—On the morning of Wednesday last, the neighbourhood of Holly hall, near Worcester, was thrown into a state of painful excitement from a report being circulated that a great number of men were killed in a coal pit, which, on inquiry, was found to be too true. Fourteen men and a boy had descended into a pit; some of them going to one part of the mine, and some to another. While below, a tremendous explosion took place at one end of the mine, caused, it is supposed, by the carelessness of the men in venturing too near the fire-damp with a lighted candle, instead of Davy's lamp. The men on the opposite side were thrown down and bruised. Assistance was procured as soon as possible; and, on the whole of the hands being mustered, it was found that six colliers had been killed, and that Thomas Jones was much burnt, though hopes were entertained of his recovery. The bodies presented a most horrible spectacle, being literally scorched to a cinder.

Melancholy Accident.—The *Doncaster Gazette* notifies the melancholy death, by accidental drowning, of three brothers of the name of Thackwray, of the respective ages of twenty-two, nineteen, and seventeen.

The Wreck of the Pegasus.—An inquest has been held on the bodies of William Milnes and Alexander Miller, two of the sufferers from the loss of the Pegasus. Mr Pringle, the cashier of the company, was examined as to the state of the vessel, captain, &c. Several ship captains were examined, when it was given by all of them, that going to the eastward of the Maystone at night was an unsafe passage, and only safe in the day time, in clear weather, to those who know it well. The following is the result:—"William Milnes and Alexander Miller—accidental death, occasioned by the gross carelessness of the master and those on the look out;" and, in addition to the expression of their opinion, they have added a deodand of £100 against the company on each body—£200 in all. The divers from Whitstable are still recovering cargo and passengers' luggage from the Pegasus, and several more bodies have come on shore along the coast, the friends of whom have been, in most cases, written to when they could be identified.

Execution at Stafford.—The culprit Higginson, who was condemned at the late assizes for the brutal murder of his child, was executed on Saturday. The murder was perpetrated in a wood near Eccleshall; the father having enticed his son into the wood, bandaged his eyes and mouth, dug a grave, and buried the poor child alive. The usual sickening scenes attended his execution, and crowds were assembled to see the wretched man suspended from the gallows.

IRELAND.

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.

The usual weekly meeting of this association took place on Monday, the 21st, but Mr O'Connell not being present, the meeting was soon adjourned. The rent was announced to be £1138 8s. 7d.

The next Step for Repeal.—An adjourned meeting of the association was held on Tuesday. After various preliminary business, such as the payment of rent, and an account of the Tara hill demonstration, Mr O'Connell said he would now come to the more immediate business of the day. He had to lay before them his plan for the mode of the restoration of the Irish parliament [cheers]. It would inform them, not how to obtain it, but what they were desirous of obtaining. He then read the following report:—

"Plan for the Renewed Action of the Irish Parliament.

"1. The Irish people recognise, acknowledge, maintain, and will continually preserve and uphold upon the throne of Ireland, her Majesty Queen Victoria (whom God protect!), Queen by undoubted right, and by hereditary descent, of Ireland, and her heirs and successors for ever. The people of Ireland recognise, acknowledge, maintain, and will continually preserve and uphold, all the prerogatives of her Majesty, and of her heirs and successors belonging to, and inherent in, the imperial crown of Ireland; and they will true allegiance bear, pure, undivided, and indivisible, to her Majesty, her heirs and successors for ever.

"2. The people of Ireland acknowledge, and will maintain and preserve for ever, the privileges, hereditary and personal, of the peers of Ireland, together with the legislative and judicial authority of the Irish House of Lords, and the exercise of the prerogative in augmenting and limiting the peerage, as the same did of right exist before the year 1800.

"3. The people of Ireland do firmly insist upon the restoration of the Irish House of Commons, consisting of three hundred representatives of the Irish people; and claim, in the presence of their Creator, the right of the people of Ireland to such restoration. They have submitted to the union as being binding as a law; but they declare solemnly that it is not founded on right, or on constitutional principles, and that it is not obligatory upon conscience. They agree with the tory Attorney-general Saurin, that the only binding power of the union is the strength of the English domination. They also agree with him that resistance is a mere question of prudence. They will therefore resist the union by all legal, peaceful, and constitutional means.

"4. The plan for the restoration of the Irish parliament is as follows:—1. That the county members should be increased to 173, in the manner hereinafter specified. 2. That there should be 127 members returned from cities and towns, in the manner hereinafter mentioned.

3. That the county of Carlow, being the only county in Ireland with less than 100,000 inhabitants, should get an increase of one member, so as to have three representatives; that every other county having 100,000 inhabitants should get an increase of two members; that every county ranging above 150,000 inhabitants should get an increase of five members.

"That every county ranging above 250,000 inhabitants should get an increase of four members.

"That the county of Tipperary having more than 400,000 inhabitants, but not less than 500,000, should get an increase of eight members.

"That the county of Cork, having more than 700,000 inhabitants, should get an increase of ten members.

"5. With respect to the towns and cities, it is proposed that the city of Dublin, having more than 200,000 inhabitants, should have eight representatives; four for the parts north of the Liffey, and four for the parts south of the Liffey.

"That the university of Dublin should continue on the basis of its present constituency to send two members.

"It is proposed that the city of Cork, having more than 100,000 inhabitants, should have five members.

"That the city of Limerick and town of Belfast, having respectively more than 50,000 inhabitants, should send four members each.

"It is proposed that the town of Galway and the cities of Waterford and Kilkenny, having respectively more than 20,000 inhabitants, should send each three members to parliament.

"That other towns having about 7,000 inhabitants should each send two members to parliament, and that forty-nine other towns, next highest in the ratio of population, should send one member each.

"A schedule of the different places to return members to the Irish parliament will show their relative population; and the number of members to be assigned to each was then set forth, and the report proceeded in the following words;—

"The population is taken from the returns of the year 1831, which having been made for a different purpose, and without any reference whatever to the repeal of the legislative union, furnish a scale of unquestionable impartiality.

"6. It is proposed that the right of voting should be what is called 'household suffrage,' requiring six months' residence in the counties; with the addition in the towns of married men resident for twelve months, whether householders or not.

"7. It is proposed, that the mode of voting for members of parliament should certainly be by ballot.

"The monarch *de facto* of England at all times hereafter, whoever he may be, shall be monarch *de jure* in Ireland. And so in case of future regency, the regent *de facto* in England to be also regent *de jure* in Ireland.

"9. The connexion between Great Britain and Ireland by means of the power, authority, and prerogatives of the crown, to be perpetual, and incapable of change, or any severance or separation.

"The foregoing plan to be carried into effect according to recognised law, and strict constitutional principle.

"Signed by order,
"DANIEL O'CONNELL,
"Chairman of the Committee."

Mr O'Connell continued to say, that he threw this report abroad for the consideration of the Irish people, for there was no remedy for their wrongs but the carrying of that plan into execution. If there was any dissent from it—if any portion of the country complained of partiality—they would adopt any proper amendment submitted to them, but they would not lightly change it. Nothing but an overwhelming conviction would make them swerve from it, and he trusted it would be unanimously adopted there and at other meetings. They had now nothing to do but to carry it into effect [cheers]. His own opinion was that the royal prerogative was sufficient to restore to Ireland her parliament [loud cheers]. It would be remembered that when King James abdicated, the parliament began by appointing William king, and then proceeded to enact that all they had done when without a king, during the abdication of James, was legal. All they need do was to adopt a similar course about the repeal; if the Queen took the initiative, and called the parliament, they could afterwards legalise everything [loud cheering]. He concluded by moving that the report be adopted, printed, and circulated, which was carried.

An adjourned meeting took place on Wednesday. Various sums were handed in from different parts of America, and Mr O'Connell again took occasion to reiterate his former opinions on American slavery. After some other business, Mr O'Connell brought forward a motion, to the effect that the repeal wardens throughout the country be requested to do their utmost to put down faction fights, and in all cases where it was in their power, to prosecute the rioters and bring them to justice. The persons who took part in these fights were traitors to their country—unworthy of liberty, and in future none of them should be admitted as repealers, and any of them that were so at present should be expelled from the association [hear, hear]. The motion was carried.

Appointment of Arbitrators.—Another meeting of the association was held on Wednesday, when Dr Gray brought forward the report of the sub-committee appointed to consider and report on the adoption of a general system of arbitration throughout the country. The report recommended that a standing committee be formed to arrange the necessary details; that the counties be apportioned into districts; that the dismissed magistrates be, in the first place, recommended as arbitrators; that the candidates for the office should be appointed by the association, on the recommendation of the repeal wardens; that not fewer than three arbitrators should be appointed to each petty session district; that the penalty for refusing to abide by the award of the arbitrators should be expulsion from the Repeal association; with various details respecting the procedure to be observed. Mr O'Connell expressed his admiration of the report, and the plan recommended by it. That plan would put an end to the present expensive system of litigation, and would form the commencement, he trusted, of other tribunals, by which law would be dispensed cheaply justly, without expense or partiality. The same and plan had been adopted by the Catholic association; and, so far as they had gone with it, it succeeded admirably, but the granting of emancipation put a stop to it while in its infancy. Now, the granting repeal would not put any stop to the present plan when carried into execution, but, on the contrary, render its adoption more general and secure. There was far too much power at present possessed by the magistracy. The report was unanimously adopted.

The Catholic Oath.—Mr O'Connell then proceeded to address the meeting, in a very powerful speech, on the subject of the catholic oath. After animadverting upon the recent speeches of Lord Brougham and Lord Beaumont, in the house of Lords, he concluded by moving that the Repeal association do prepare a petition for the abolition of all oaths affecting Roman catholics, with the exception of the one specified—the oath of allegiance—in the second article of the treaty of Limerick [loud cheers]. The motion, after several speeches, was carried.

Meeting at Mr O'Connell's.—In pursuance of a regular summons, a cabinet council is, I understand, being held this day (Saturday) at Mr O'Connell's non-official residence, in Merrion square, for the purpose of taking into consideration such paragraphs of the royal speech as had reference to the repeal sedition at present organised in Ireland, and to found a report thereon.—*Times Correspondent.*

British Association.—At the meeting of the general committee last Monday, it was resolved that the next meeting of the association should be held at York, an invitation from the York Philosophical Society having been presented. The time was fixed for September, and the very Rev. George Peacock, D.D. dean of Ely, having been elected president for the next year, the meeting separated. The labours of the association were wound up on Thursday by an excursion around Cork harbour, in a steamer engaged for the purpose, and visited all the curiosities in the neighbourhood. Several of the party dined on board the Orestes, man-of-war. Some of the papers read at the various meetings have been of a very interesting character; in consequence of the crowded state of our columns we shall refer to them at some future time. On Wednesday evening grants of money were made to the amount of £1887. The following are a few of the grants:—Mr W. S. Harris, for completing the meteorological observations at Portsmouth, £35; Dr Robinson, for conducting experiments with captive balloons, £100; Sir John Herschell, for magnetical and meteorological co-operation, £50; Sir David Brewster, for investigating the action of different bodies on the spectrum, £10; Colonel Sabine, for superintending the translation and publication of scientific memoirs, £20; Mr Francis Baily, for the publication of the British association's catalogue of stars, £650; Sir Thomas Brisbane, for completing the observations on the tides of the east coast of Scotland, £100; Professor Wheatstone, for experiments on subterranean temperature, £30; the Marquess of Northampton, for making coloured drawings of railway cuttings, £100; Professor Owen, for the investigation of fossil fishes of the lower tertiary strata, £100.

Law of Landlord and Tenant.—It has been reported in Dublin, that government have resolved on issuing a commission, whose labours are to commence during the recess, for the purpose of inquiring into the relations between landlord and tenant in in Ireland; and that their report on the subject will be laid before parliament early next session, with a view to legislation. The Earl of Devon is named as chairman of the commission. The *Dublin Evening Post* adds, that government are already in possession of some extraordinary information respecting the disputes between Mr Shee and his tenants in Kilkenny; and that the harassing system pursued in that particular district will be one of Sir Robert Peel's topics in addressing the Commons.

Military Discontent.—The 5th fusileers, after the murder of the adjutant, were ordered from Parsonstown to Dublin. The following paragraphs are from the *Leinster Express*, a tory paper:—"Two companies of the 5th fusileers arrived in Tullamore on Tuesday, from Parsonstown, and left the following morning. There appears to be much interest among the men, and a general feeling of regret for the unfortunate soldier, Jubee, who is stated on all hands to have been previously one the best conducted men in the regiment." "Although reluctant to add flame to the feeling already prevalent about the 5th fusileers, yet I am sorry to say the murmuring is not yet over against those in authority; for, during the march through this town (Mountmellick) of the different divisions, many of the men expressed themselves freely on the subject, and I could give some of their words, which would prove that all is 'not right' in that corps yet."

Reduction of Rents.—The Duke of Buckingham has made an abatement of fifteen, and in some cases twenty per cent., to his grace's tenants in the west of the county of Clare. Lord Muskery, upon his arrival at Springfield castle, in the county of Limerick, summoned his tenantry, and informed them that, in consequence of the depression of the times, he had resolved to reduce their rents twenty per cent., the reduction to extend to the last September gale.

Dreadful Murders.—John Mahony, a tailor by trade, went to the house of his brother, some distance from Macroom; where meeting his sister-in-law, a dispute arose between them, owing to her charging him with committing a robbery. He at length became exasperated, seized a graffawn, and, striking her on the head with it, broke in her skull, and she fell dead at his feet. He raised his arm to strike her a second time, but her daughter ran to prevent him; on which he struck her also on the head with the murderous implement, and she spoke no more. A servant girl ran towards him; but she met a similar fate to that of her unfortunate mistress and child. The murderer then fastened up the door, and fled. When his brother returned, he knocked at the door; but receiving no answer, he forced it open, and was horrified on discovering the lifeless corpses of his wife, his child, and servant, stretched alongside each other. The murderer has been arrested near Kilcreagh Abbey.—*Cork Constitutional.*

SCOTLAND.

Blasphemous Publications.—In the Police Sheriff court on Tuesday, two young men were convicted of posting blasphemous bills in connexion with publications of that description. They were sentenced to thirty days' imprisonment, failing to find caution £10 each not to offend again. We have been informed that the required caution has been found and the parties liberated.—*Scotsman.*

Repeal Fight.—Irish reapers are still arriving in multitudes at the Broomielaw. The Londonderry steamer bronght upwards of 1,500 on Friday morning. Those on board the Aurora had a regular fight during the passage on the question of repeal. When the boat arrived at the Broomielaw, one of the passengers was so seriously injured that he had to be conveyed to the infirmary; and four others, who were rendered unfit to labour, were taken back to their own country on Friday night by the Aurora. A number of others were more or less injured.—*Glasgow Herald.*

Pigs and Fever.—At the Police court on Wednesday morning a number of Irish people were brought up for keeping pigs, in a filthy state, in one or two of the most densely populated closes in the city. A witness in one case, connected with Bridgegate street, deponed that the pigs were a great annoyance, from the smell arising from them, which he believed was the cause of fever. To his certain knowledge, not a family in that close had had some of its members afflicted with fever. In another case, a female witness stated that there was a dungstead below the window of her house, and the pigsty immediately under the floor of it; that the pigs made holes with their noses in the flooring, and that the whole of the family had been ill for three weeks. Such statements give some idea of the wretched circumstances in which many of the poorer inhabitants of our closes and vennels are situated, and may serve to abate surprise as to fever and other infectious diseases, so prevalent in the poorer districts of the city.—*Glasgow Chronicle.*

A Canine Fisherman.—A few days ago a very fine large Newfoundland cross-breed dog, belonging to one of the gamekeepers of Mr Campbell of Islay, while walking along the water of Laggan, spied a beautiful salmon disporting itself in the far-famed fishing pool at Corrary bridge, near Bowmore. The dog plunged into the stream, and, after a short but gallant and successful struggle, safely landed a fine fish of 14 lb. weight. The dog is a terror to the poachers of Bowmore, and is one of the best game preservers in the employment of Mr Campbell. We learn that, although this is one of his best, it is not the only piscatory exploit of this canine disciple of Isaac Walton.—*Glasgow Journal.*

Literature.

Discourses on the Nature and Extent of the Atonement of Christ. By Ralph Wardlaw, D.D. Glasgow. James Maclehose. 1843. pp. 285.

If, on any occasion, we felt ourselves called upon to discuss subjects of a theological complexion, no opportunity would be more tempting than that afforded by the present appearance of Dr Wardlaw's volume. Not even this occasion, however, must tempt us to violate the "*simplex duntaxat et unum*" which characterises our object. This work refers to opinions which have long agitated the church in general, and are now agitating the Scottish secession church in particular. In the preface, Dr Wardlaw states that he is called into controversy in self-defence, and in consequence, first, of an accusation preferred against him in the *Scottish Guardian*, of being "unsound, to a certain extent, on the doctrine of the atonement," and next, in consequence of Dr Marshall's recent work on that doctrine, in which his views were more specifically impugned. The author remarks:—

"To a Christian minister there can be no imputation more serious than that of unsoundness—even although couched in qualified terms—on a "cardinal" article of divine truth—an article so connected as the atonement is with the glory of God and the salvation of men. It then becomes his duty—not for his own sake merely, but for the sake of his ministerial usefulness, which, so far as the imputation is either believed or suspected to be true, cannot fail to be affected by it, and for the sake of the truth of God, of which, if he be honest, he must consider the views he holds to be those given in the inspired standard—to take the field and 'contend earnestly for the faith delivered unto the saints.'"—pp. 7, 8.

The titles of these discourses are as follows. I. The Christian Atonement. II. Value of the Atonement; Import of Satisfaction to Divine Justice; Extent of the Atonement. III. Divine Relations; Corresponding Designs of the Atonement; Universality of the Calls and Offers of the Gospel. IV. Obstacles to the Sinner's Salvation existing in the Sinner himself; relation of the Atonement to

them; The Sinner's Accountableness; Nature of his Ability and his Inability. V. Further Remarks on Moral Inability; Divine Decrees; Bearing of these on the Doctrine of the Atonement, and on Human Responsibility; Summary of Agreement and Difference. VI. Apparent Discrepancy, but real Harmony, of Scripture Statements. VII. Practical Improvement; Inferences from the Atonement respecting the final Condition of the Impenitent; Application to different Descriptions of Character.

In the following paragraph, we have the Doctor's statement of the position which his work is intended to illustrate and defend:—

"It still appears to me, as it has ever done, much more consistent and satisfactory to regard it, 'the atonement,' as a 'great moral vindication' of the divine character, and especially of the divine righteousness; not binding God to pardon any, but rendering it honourable to his perfections and government, should he so will it, to pardon all; leaving no insuperable barrier in the way of the pardon of any, whether arising from limited sufficiency in the atonement itself, or from such restriction in its destination as leave the claims of justice unsatisfied except within the limit of that destination; both of which suppositions involve natural impossibility from the existence of no atonement beyond a certain extent;—to regard it, in a word, as an all-sufficient general remedy, of which the effectual application remains in the hands of the divine sovereignty."—pp. 71, 72.

Having thus set before our readers the contents and position of the volume, we discharge the only duty we feel called upon to perform. The other side has also its claims, and we shall be willing to do it the same justice when the same opportunity shall be afforded us. In this work, we will only remark, Dr Wardlaw has shown the same clearness, gravity, talent, and candour by which his productions have been invariably characterized. If by any thing the waters of Marah can be made sweet, it is by the tone and temper he has thrown into them. So discussed, the question—whatever the conclusion—must be profitable. Such agitation must be infinitely preferable to the apathetic indifference which leaves the waters of truth to become stagnant, whilst every lazy weed of error roots itself upon its banks. The image is not our own; but we think it not inappropriate. Contention for truth exhibits, properly conducted, the vitality of the church. Welcome anything rather than an indolent indifference, or a priest-ridden uniformity.

Nine and Two, or School Hours; intended for the use of the rising generation, to open their understanding, to ground and settle their faith, and to improve their general behaviour. By GEORGE M. MUSGRAVE, M.A., B.N.C. Oxford, Vicar of Borden, Kent. 12mo. Rivington, St Paul's Church yard.

OUR attention has been called to the above original book, and we shall proceed to make several extracts, which will render comment almost unnecessary:—

"Whenever you find yourself in a building where a man is saying prayers without a surplice," "you are on such occasions in great danger."—p. 25.

"Always suspect something wrong when you are advised to go to other places of worship."—p. 26.

"Dissenters' chapels have no bells, no priests, no bishops, nothing of the kind. Sometimes the man who preaches has been all the work-a-days making breeches or shoes, &c."—p. 28.

"Would you not be shocked to see your parish priest go into the pulpit with a brown great coat?"—p. 25.

"It is all nonsense for a man to talk about having a call from God to go and turn preacher."—p. 32.

We pass by the vicar's ingenious and laboured attempt to explain away his own solemn asseveration; *his trust that he was* moved of the Holy Spirit to take upon him the office of a minister of the gospel; his endeavours to reconcile it with the assertion at p. 32, are too deep for us to follow him through them. We pass on—

"The preacher who has never been ordained by authority of a bishop has only *called himself*."—p. 35.

"All that these self-made preachers say about a call from the Lord is folly, pride, and conceit."—p. 36.

"All their fine talk about calls from the Lord is mere nonsense."—p. 37.

"Our church is the sanctuary of our parish, and there is no other." "Sanctuary means the holy place."—p. 74.

"A spiritual pastor sent into the parish by the archbishop or bishop is the only minister who has God's authority for preaching the gospel."—p. 121.

The vicar has no objection to an incidental dash of politics, provided it be in the right direction. Let the readers of the *Nonconformist* beware. The advocates of the "six points" are styled (p. 118) good-for-nothing, cunning, selfish, wicked men, who are always abusing every thing that concerns the gospel and good laws.

He shows (p. 124) the arduous nature of his duties: he says, "Two long sermons require at least two days to write;" and (p. 126) "one well-composed written sermon is worth twenty sermons called extempore."

Five pages are devoted to the inculcation of the cardinal duty of "ordering ourselves lowly and reverently to all our betters." Seven times the duty of touching or doffing the hat is specified; and at p. 137 it is urged as having "proved at last worth a hundred pounds to a poor lad." But who are our betters? "Those persons (p. 130) whom God had been pleased to make richer in the world than ourselves!" "Churchwardens and collectors (p. 132) are our betters:" and "our spiritual pastor, we are sure, must be among our betters." Again (p. 133), the parson is shown to be "at the head of our betters." "The two persons we ought to honour and reverence more than all others are the farmer we work for, and the clergyman!!!"

Page 148 asserts baptismal regeneration as follows: "All who are baptized are washed clean and pure from the foul stain they are born with as coming from the first man Adam."

The following remarks on what the vicar calls "schism-houses," will serve to show that what he wants in charity is made up in zeal. At p. 176 he says, "Unless the invention of man be as good as the wisdom of God, we ought never to enter a chapel." Page 180, "In chapels the congregation depend on the prayer-inventor for every word, and they cannot join in the prayer."

Page 181, "After all, IGNORANCE is the chief support of these preaching houses."

In the appendix, p. 18, he says:—

"Collections are made in these meeting houses, and the preachers sometimes suck thereout no small advantage."

Referring again to the qualifications of dissenting ministers, he says:

"Any man taking upon himself the name and duties of a minister of Christ, and, at the same time, following any worldly occupation, such as pig-jobbing, &c., &c., is an unauthorised intruder into the ministry of the church, and a rash usurper of the apostolic office and dignity."—p. 152.

"Now as there are no priests, the ministers of God, in these meeting houses, we are guilty of the sin of schism if we go to these houses."—p. 185.

We fear the vicar must himself have been guilty of this sin, or he would not be so competent to make these statements, more particularly such as the following:

"There is more of God's word spoken in our church service in the course of an hour, than is heard in a chapel in six months."—p. 194.

His views of the church and its formularies are equally thorough-going. At p. 157, he asserts that the latter are "all commanded by God."

"All the services in the prayer book are, without exception, composed of words and texts taken from the old and new testament."—p. 176.

At p. 158, he asserts that "the blessings conferred by the church are to be enjoyed by all without money or cost." Nevertheless, at p. 6, appendix, we find—"In all parishes where men honour, fear, and reverence God," church rates "are cheerfully paid." "In some parishes it is a hard matter to get the money." "Many men call it a matter of conscience. It would be much nearer the truth, if they said it was a matter of conceit, and a display of ignorance."

We feel strongly inclined to quote further from this extraordinary book; but the above is sufficient to show the character of the "education" that was in store for the victims of the "olive branch."

Outlines for the Pulpit; or Short Illustrations of Select Texts for Evangelical Discourses. By ADAM THOMSON, D.D., Coldstream. Edinburgh: W. Oliphant and Son.

THERE is a great weight of important matter in these volumes. They are full of truth; indeed liable to the charge of being overladen. The author has not sought artificial arrangements; all is solid, sober, sterling. Scripture occupies a conspicuous place, and no young preacher can dwell on them unprofitably. The frequent recurrence of "outlines," "helps to preaching," "pulpit skeletons," &c., suggests, however, the question, Whence arises the demand of which all this is the supply? Granting that to an uneducated preacher such aids are of essential service, and that even to an educated one they may be of great utility, within carefully prescribed limits, as suggesting trains of thought which without them might be overlooked; if such works as these ever operate as a writ of *supersedeas* upon industrious study, it is time for the preacher to inquire how best he may put *finis* upon his perfunctory and inefficient ministry. Such a use as this, we are persuaded the respected author will be the first to deprecate. They afford a gratifying specimen of ministerial labours pursued with careful preparation, and rich with doctrinal truth.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

1. *Modern Apostleship.* A Letter, &c.
2. *Baines on the Manufacturing Districts.*
3. *Funeral Sermon for Dr Fletcher.* By Dr WARDLAW.
4. *Peace, Permanent and Universal.* By H. T. J. MACNAMARA.
5. *Influence of Respect for Outward Things.*
6. *Account of the Orphan Working School, City road.*
7. *Who should Educate the Prince of Wales?*
8. *Influence of Aristocracies on the Revolutions of Nations.* By J. J. MACINTYRE.
9. *Thoughts on Thomas Carlyle.*
10. *Thoughts upon Thought.*
11. *Colonial Magazine.* August.
12. *Herald of Peace.* August.
13. *Decapolis.* By D. E. FORD.
14. *Rudiments of Music.* By D. E. FORD.
15. *L'Echo de Paris.*
16. *The Second Reformation.* By Rev. T. SPENCER.
17. *The Importance of an Educated Ministry.* A Discourse. By Dr HARRIS.
18. *Apostasy from Christ.* A Sermon. By Rev. R. WARNER.
19. *Hydropathy.* By EDWARD JOHNSON, M.D.
20. *Village Dialogues.* By ROWLAND HILL the younger.
21. *Plea for Liberty of Education.* By J. H. HINTON.
22. *Plan of National Education.* By W. BIGGS.
23. *The Lever of the Gospel.* By J. R. BALME.
24. *The Crisis is Come.* By the Rev. B. D. BOGIE.
25. *A Sermon.* Preached at Glasgow by Dr WARDLAW, on occasion of the lamented Death of the Rev. J. M. Mackenzie, A.M.

Religious Intelligence.

LLANELLY.—The Rev. Thomas Roberts, of Brecon college, has received a unanimous invitation from the English independent church, Park street, Llanelly, Carmarthenshire, and intends entering upon his labours there on the first Sabbath in September next.

PETERSFIELD.—The Rev. John Moreland was recognised as pastor of the independent church, Petersfield, Hants, on Wednesday, August 16th, 1843, when the Rev. J. Howell, of Alton, commenced by reading the scriptures and prayer; the Rev. S. Ransom, classical and Hebrew tutor in the Theological academy, Hackney, delivered an introductory discourse; the Rev. W. Scamp, of Havant, offered the recognition prayer; and the Rev. T. Guyer, of Ryde, preached to the people. The Rev. Messrs Slatterie of Rowland's castle, Evans of Emsworth, Morgan of Harting, and Edwin of Midhurst, engaged in the other parts of the services.

BURIAL OF THE REV. MORELL MACKENZIE.—On the 11th instant the remains of the Rev. Mr Mackenzie were interred in the churchyard at Bamborough. The funeral was numerously and respectably attended. The remains were laid by the side of the Rev. John Robb, of Dunkeld, who lost his life by the wreck of the Forfarshire.

KIDDERMINSTER.—A tea meeting of church members belonging to the various denominations of dissenters, took place at the Albion rooms, on Monday evening, for the purpose of forming a union for the promotion of spiritual objects, and for preparation to act in concert in the defence of their civil and religious privileges. The number present was nearly three hundred. After tea a hymn having been sung, prayer was offered up by the Rev. Mr Higgins, primitive methodist minister. Henry Brinton, Esq. (the chairman), in opening the business of the meeting, congratulated his friends on this commencement of union among the different denominations of Christians in this town, which he doubted not would be productive of great good. The Rev. Mr Mills (baptist), and the Rev. Mr Usher (Wesleyan minister), then delivered addresses exhibiting the nature of the union contemplated, and enforcing its necessity at this juncture of affairs. Appropriate speeches were also delivered by members of the various congregations. A hymn was again sung, and after prayer by the Rev. Mr Usher, the meeting separated, apparently highly delighted with the proceedings of the evening. This meeting was preparatory to a general meeting to be holden at the Wesleyan chapel on Wednesday evening.

The Rev. Samuel M'All, of Doncaster, has accepted the invitation from the church worshiping in Castlegate, in this town, to become their pastor.—*Notts. Review.*

HUNSLET, LEEDS.—Mr John Williams, late missionary to Vale Lionel, Jamaica, has accepted the unanimous invitation of the baptist church, Hunslet, to become pastor, much to the satisfaction of the church and congregation worshiping in that place.

UNION STREET, SOUTHWARK.—The independent church assembling in Union Street chapel, Southwark, have, by a unanimous invitation, obtained the services of the Rev. James Lyon, late of Waterford, as co-pastor with the Rev. John Arundel; and Mr Lyon will commence his stated labours there next Lord's day morning.

BIRTHS.

August 21, at Castle Donington, Leicestershire, the wife of Rev. J. CHAPMAN, baptist minister, Woodchester, Gloucestershire, of a son.

August 21, at Chepstow, the wife of the Rev. RICHARD N. DUGUID BROWN, of Chepstow, of a son.

August 22, the wife of the Rev. J. PARSONS, of Brierley hill, Staffordshire, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

August 15, at Lady Huntingdon's chapel, Swansea, by the Rev. T. Dodd, Mr CORMIER of Jersey, merchant, to Miss CADIE of Swansea.

August 21, at the Independent chapel, St James's street, Newport, Isle of Wight, Mr F. TARLETON, master of the Newport Royal British schools, to MERCY, daughter of the late Mr Wm MORRIS, South street, Newport.

August 21, at the Independent chapel, Ware, by the Rev. J. Lockyer, Mr JOHN MARSHALL of Ware, to Miss JANE LARKING of Hertford.

August 22, at the Baptist church, South parade, Leeds, by the Rev. J. E. Giles, Mr JOHN WETHERALL, farmer, Holbeck, to Mrs SARAH STOTTARD, widow of the late Rev. Mr Stottard, baptist minister, Colne, Lancashire.

August 19, at the Countess of Huntingdon's chapel, Bath, by the Rev. J. J. Richards, Mr J. H. BRYANT, of the Weston mills, near Bath, to SUSAN RACHEL, daughter of Nath. BARTLETT, Esq.

August 22, at West Orchard chapel, Coventry, by the Rev. J. Jerard, Mr J. POTTAR of Gloucester, to Miss ELIZA BUCKNEY, of Mill lane, Coventry.

August 21, at St Andrew's chapel, North Shields, by the Rev. John A. Coombs of Ambleside, Mr THOMAS WHITE of North Shields, to Miss ANNE ROPER of the same place.

August 22, at Weybridge, Surrey, ANDREW DOYLE, Esq., of the Inner Temple, to LOUISA, youngest daughter of Sir John EASTHOPE, Bart, M.P.

DEATHS.

August 22, at his house in Bartholomew yard, Exeter, the Rev. HENRY ACTON, aged 44 years, for 20 years one of the ministers of the unitarian congregation in that city. Mr Acton was well known as a rhetorician of a high class—as an intrepid advocate, not only in support of his own tenets, but also of the principles of civil and religious liberty. His own congregation have sustained a loss of no ordinary nature, and the body of dissenters at large will feel cause to lament for a champion, whose place it will be difficult to supply.—*Somerset County Gazette.*

July 31, at her residence, Stratford-on-Avon, deservedly beloved and much lamented, CATHARINE, wife of Mr H. KNIGHT, and eldest daughter of the late Mr Jos. Norton, Yelvertoft, Northamptonshire, aged 24 years. Her end was peace—her death was gain.

August 20, at the great age of 100 years and 7 months, Mrs NELSON, of Bulmer street, Bulmer, near Sudbury, Suffolk.

Lately, at Forsac, France, in the 88th year of his age, Count DE PAREL D'ESPEYRUT, one of the tutors of Napoleon at the military school of Brienne.

Trade and Commerce.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, August 25.

BANKRUPTS.

ATKINS, JAMES, Shoreditch, tobacconist, Sept. 6, Oct. 6: solicitors, Messrs B. and J. Lawrence, Old Fish street.

BUCHANAN, CHARLES BENN, and CUNNINGHAM, WILLIAM, Liverpool, and Montreal, Canada, merchants, Sept. 11, Oct. 3: solicitors, Mr Whitley, Liverpool, and Mr Garey, Southampton buildings, London.

BURT, WILLIAM, 53, Harrow road, Paddington, lodging-house keeper, Sept. 1, Oct. 6: solicitor, Mr Barnard, Southampton street, Strand.

CHESWATH, WILLIAM, Newton, Cheshire, brewer, Sept. 9, Oct. 12: solicitors, Mr P. Barker, Middlewich, and Mr Cuff, 12, Half-moon street, Piccadilly, London.

COLPITTS, ROBERT SUTTON, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, grocer, Sept. 1, Oct. 16: solicitors, Messrs Hill and Matthews, 1, Bury court, St Mary Axe, London, and Mr J. T. Hoyle, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

CUNNINGHAM, ANDREW, Bolton, Lancashire, provision dealer, Sept. 13, 27: solicitors, Mr J. Cornthwaite, Liverpool, and Messrs Cornthwaite and Adams, Dean's court, Doctors' Commons, London.

JUDD, JAMES and WILLIAM, Romsey, Hampshire, mealmen, Sept. 2, Oct. 6: solicitors, Messrs Staniland and Long, Bouverie street, London, and Mr Holmes, Romsey.

POW, JAMES BROUGH, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, ship broker, Sept. 5, Oct. 16: solicitors, Mr J. Brown, Newcastle, and Messrs Brooksbank and Farn, 14, Gray's Inn square, London.

PRIOR, JOHN, Bedford, statuary, Sept. 4, Oct. 14: solicitor, Mr Lewis, Wilmington square, London.

ROBSON, JOSEPH and THOMAS RICHARD, St Martin's lane, organ builders, Sept. 4, 27: solicitors, Messrs Moseley and Co., Bedford street, Covent garden.

WALSH, HENRY, Reading, Berkshire, watch maker, Sept. 1, Oct. 5: solicitor, Mr Barber, Furnival's inn, Holborn.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

MARTIN, DAVID, Broughty Ferry, fish dealer, August 30, Sept. 20.

SCOTT, WALTER, late of Comerton, Fifeshire, Sept. 2, 23.

WATSON, ALEXANDER, Lynlish, Morayshire, farmer, August 30, Sept. 20.

Tuesday, August 29th.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the 6th and 7th William IV, cap. 85:—

Park-place chapel, Toxteth park, Lancashire. William Cleaver, superintendent registrar.

BANKRUPTS.

FELL, JAMES, Oakley street, Lambeth, Surrey, Rowley Regis, Staffordshire, and of Walbrook, London, soda manufacturer, Oct. 10, 24: soliictor, Mr William Fellowes, jun., Dudley.

JEANE, JOHN, Poole, post-master, Sept. 8, Oct. 13: solicitors, Messrs Cuvelje and Co., 10, Southampton buildings, Chancery lane.

JACKSON, THOMAS HEWIT, Sheffield, glass cutter, Sept. 9, Oct. 18: solicitors, Messrs Sudlow and Co., 20, Chancery lane, London, and Messrs Smith and Wightman, Sheffield.

KNIGHT, JOHN, Preston and Lancaster, mercer, Sept. 13, Oct. 12: solicitors, Messrs Sale and Worthington, Manchester, and Messrs R. M. and C. Baxter, 48, Lincoln's inn fields, London.

THREADGOLD, GEORGE, 8, Finsbury circus, and of Brunswick cottage, City road, builder, Sept. 6, Oct. 10: solicitor, Mr Henry Clarke, George street, Mansion house, London.

TIMMIS, WILLIAM, Loughton, Staffordshire, draper, Sept. 9, Oct. 7: solicitors, Mr Ashurst, Cheapside, London, and Messrs Richards and Gillam, Birmingham.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

ARNOT, JOHN, Edinburgh, merchant, Sept. 5, Oct. 3.

BRITISH FUNDS.

In consequence of the wet weather, and a prevalent report of an illegal seizure of arms, the funds have declined ¼ per cent.

	Wed.	*Thur.*	*Fri.*	*Sat.*	*Mon.*	*Tues.*
3 per cent. Consols	94¼	94¼	94¼	94⅜	94⅜	94¼
Ditto for Account ..	94⅜	94⅜	94¼	94⅜	94⅜	94⅜
3 per cents Reduced	95⅜	95⅛	95	95	95	95
3½ per cts. Reduced	102¾	102¾	102⅝	102⅝	102⅝	102⅝
New 3½ per cent....	102	102	101⅝	101⅝	101⅝	101⅝
Long Annuities ..	12⅜	—	12⅛	—	12⅛	12⅛
Bank Stock	182⅛	182½	182	182	182	182
India Stock	264	264	—	—	—	—
Exchequer Bills...	60pm	58pm	56pm	56pm	58pm	58pm
India Bonds.....	68pm	68pm	—	68pm	—	—

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian	—	Mexican	36¾
Belgian	104½	Peruvian	20
Brazilian	73	Portuguese 5 per cents	65
Buenos Ayres	27	Ditto 3 per cents ...	29
Columbian.....	25	Russian	116
Danish.....	86	Spanish Active	19
Dutch 2½ per ce nts	53	Ditto Passive	4½
Ditto 5 per cents	100½	Ditto Deferred	10¾

RAILWAY SHARES.

Birmingham and Derby	48½	London and Brighton ..	35
Birmingham & Gloucester	52	London & CroydonTrunk	12½
Blackwall	4¾	London and Greenwich	4¾
Bristol and Exeter	58	Ditto New	—
Cheltenham & Gt. Western	27	Manchester & Birm.....	22⅛
Eastern Counties	10⅛	Manchester and Leeds	79
Edinburgh and Glasgow	50	Midland Counties	77
Great North of England..	62	Ditto Quarter Shares ..	17⅜
Great Western	87	North Midland	78
Ditto New	62	Ditto New	35
Ditto Fifths	16	South Eastern and Dover	27⅛
London and Birmingham	224	South Western	65⅜
Ditto Quarter Shares	40	Ditto New	—

MARKETS.

GRAIN, MARK LANE, August 28.

There was a fair supply of new wheat to day. The best runs were selected out early, at an improvement of 2s. per qr on the currency of last week, and that advance was maintained at the close of the market. In free or bonded foreign little doing, and prices are unaltered.

A good deal of foreign barley is offering, both free and bonded, and a decline of 1s. per qr must be noted; but here was very little new English, and prices are without alteration.

We have had very large supplies of oats; the trade has been exceedingly dull, and fully 1s. lower.

Beans, both foreign and English, are 1s. cheaper. Peas the same as last week.

	s.		*s.*
Wheat, Red New ..	43	to	52
Fine	52	..	60
White	44	..	52
Fine	52	..	61
Flour, per sack	35	..	35
Barley	26	..	30
Malting.....	30	..	34

	s.		*s.*
Beans, Pigeon	29	to	32
Harrow	26	..	29
Oats, Feed	20	..	21
Fine	—	..	23
Poland	20	..	23
Potato	20	..	23

	s.		*s.*
Malt, Ordinary ..	42	to	52
Pale	54	..	58
Rye.....	34	..	37
Peas, Hog	29	..	31
Maple	30	..	33
Boilers.....	34	..	36
Beans, Ticks.....	24	..	26

DUTY ON FORRION CORN.

Wheat	15*s.*	0*d.*
Barley	7	0
Oats	6	0
Rye	6	6
Beans	10	6
Peas	9	6

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR AUG. 25.			AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF THE SIX WEEKS.		
Wheat	59*s.*	9*d.*	Wheat	57*s.*	5*d.*
Barley	33	11	Barley	31	6
Oats	21	5	Oats	20	10
Rye	37	1	Rye	36	4
Beans	32	6	Beans	31	2
Peas	34	9	Peas	33	9

SEEDS.

The prices of cloverseed, both red and white, continue to have a tendency upwards. In trefoil no change. Canaryseed very scarce, and held for quite as much money. In other articles not much passing. New tares in fair supply, and obtainable at 6s. 9d. per bushel.

Linseed	per qr			Clover	per cwt		
English, sowing	50*s.*	to	60*s.*	English, red....	42*s.*	to	63*s.*
Baltic, ditto	—	..	—	Ditto, white	—	..	—
Ditto, crushing ..	36	..	41	Flemish, pale ..	42	..	48
Medit. & Odessa	40	..	44	Ditto, fine.....	50	..	60
Hempseed, small ..	34	..	36	New Hamb., red	—	..	—
Large	36	..	38	Ditto, fine.....	50	..	66
Canary, new	75	..	80	Old Hamb., red	42	..	48
Extra	86	..	88	Ditto, fine.....	50	..	64
Carraway, old	—	..	—	French, red	42	..	51
New.....	42	..	46	Ditto, white	—	..	—
Ryegrass, English	20	..	25	Coriander	10	..	16
Scotch	12	..	21	Old	16	..	20
Mustard	per bushel			Rapeseed	per ton		
Brown, new	9	..	11	Eng.ish, new ..	27*l.*	to	28*l.*
White	9	..	10 6	Linseed cakes			
Trefoil.....	—	..	—	English .. 9*l.* 10*s.* to 10*l.* 0*s.*			
Old	14	..	27	Foreign.... 5*l.* 10*s.* to 6*l.* 0*s.*			
Tares, new.....	6	..	7	Rapeseed cakes 5*l.* 5*s.* to 5*l.* 10*s.*			

PROVISIONS, LONDON, August 28.

There was no new feature in the provision market during the past week. For Irish butter the demand was no better; the transactions were few, and of a most limited character, as well landed as on board, and the prices unaltered. Fresh in plentiful supply. Foreign not changed in price or demand. In bacon there has been a fair business doing at previous quotations. Bale and tierce middles, hams and lard, as last noticed.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, August 28.

We have again to notice but a quiet demand for hops, which support about last week's rates. The duty is £135,000 to £140,000 for the kingdom, and £10,000 for Worcester. The advices from the plantations are rather favourable.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, August 28.

The arrivals of beasts to-day were fully adequate to meet the wants of the buyers, whose attendance was rather more numerous than on several preceding market days. For the primest Scots, &c., we had a steady demand, at prices fully equal to this day se'nnight. In all other kinds of beef, however, a very limited business was passing, and their previous rates were barely supported; yet a fair clearance was effected by the salesmen. There was not a single head of foreign stock on offer. The mutton trade may be considered steady, at the currencies obtained last week, those of the best old Downs ruling from 4s. to 4s. 4d. per 8lbs. Lambs were again abundant, yet the inquiry for them was rather fine, especially for Down qualities, which realised from 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d. per 8lbs. Prime small calves sold freely, other kinds slowly, at late quotations. There was very little doing in pigs, yet their value was supported.

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

Beef	2*s.*	8*d.*	to 4*s.*	0*d.*	Veal.....	3*s.*	8*d.*	to 4*s.* 6*d.*
Mutton.....	3	0	.. 4	4	Pork.....	3	0	.. 4 0
Lamb..... 3*s.* 8*d.* to 4*s.* 10*d.*								

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

	Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday	505	9,900	396	326
Monday	2,817	30,880	135	293

NEWGATE and LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, August 28.
Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

Inferior Beef	2*s.*	8*d.*	to 2*s.* 10*d.*	Inf. Mutton	2*s.*	10*d.*	to 3*s.*	4*d.*
Middling do	2	10	.. 3 0	Mid. ditto	3	6	.. 3	8
Prime large	3	2	.. 3 4	Prime ditto	3	10	.. 4	2
Prime small	3	4	.. 3 6	Veal	3	6	.. 4	6
Large Pork	3	0	.. 3 6	Small Pork	3	8	.. 4	0
Lamb..... 3*s.* 6*d.* to 4*s.* 10*d.*								

POTATOES, BOROUGH, Monday, August 28.

The supplies of potatoes from Essex and Kent, during the past week, have been good, and of considerably improved quality. Although the quantity brought forward is large, the demand is tolerably active at full prices, or from 3s. to 5s. 6d. per cwt. Scarcely any imports have taken place from abroad.

COTTON.

A large extent of business has again been done this week, and prices generally are rather higher. The sales altogether have comprised 48,610 bales.

WOOL.

Only a moderate amount of business doing, which arises from a temporary glut in the north country markets. The general state of the trade may now, it is thought, be pronounced healthy. The manufacturers are well employed, and a great quantity of wool is consumed; and it is only the almost unprecedented supply that prevents it from being more in demand at the present moment.

HAY, SMITHFIELD, August 26.—At per load of 36 trusses.

Coarse Meadow	75*s.*	to 85*s.*	NewCloverHay	95*s.*	to 116*s.*	
New ditto	60	.. 84	Old ditto	—	..	—
Useful old ditto	88	.. 92	Oat Straw	46	..	48
Fine Upland do	94	.. 98	Wheat Straw	48	..	50

COAL EXCHANGE, August 28.

Stewart's, 19s. 6d.; Hetton's, 19s. 6d.; Lambton's, 19s. 6d.; Hartlepool's, 19s. 3d.

GROCERIES, TUESDAY, August 29.

TEA.—No alteration has taken place since our last.

COFFEE.—62 casks Jamaica were sold by auction at former rates; middling at 100s., fine ordinary at 62s. to 70s. good ordinary 54s. to 58s. per cwt.

SUGAR.—One hundred and forty hhds Barbadoes, and 300 hhds St Lucia, were sold by auction and fetched lower rates; the former fetched 62s. to 66s., the latter 60s. to 64s. 6d. The trade bought about 800 hhds and tierces. In refined sugars there was not much doing, and prices are lower. Standard lumps are offered at 74s., and brown grocery at 73s. per cwt.

Advertisements.

This day is published, price 6d.,

THE PHILANTHROPIST for SEPTEMBER.

CONTENTS.

1. Too Political.
2. Conservatism.
3. London Dissenting Ministers.
4. Church and State.
5. The Industrial Classes.
6. Monthly Chronicle of Events.
7. The Late Session.
8. The Queen's Speech.
9. Repeal Movement.
10. Anti-state-church Convention.
11. Reviews of Professor Vinet, Col. Thompson, Howard Hinton, &c., &c.
12. Original Poetry, Correspondence, &c.

London: W. BRITTAIN, 11, Paternoster row.

On the 31st August, price 2s. 6d.,

THE ECLECTIC REVIEW for SEPTEMBER.

CONTENTS.

1. Authorship of the Epistle to the Hebrews.
2. Miss Aikin's Life of Addison.
3. Influence of Academies on the Fine Arts.
4. Victor Hugo's Excursions on the Rhine.
5. Des Michel's Middle Ages.
6. The Anglo-Saxon Writers.
7. Postan's Personal Observations on Sindh.
8. The Age of Great Cities, Feudalism, and Commerce.

&c., &c.

T. WARD and Co., Paternoster row.

REFUGEE SLAVES IN CANADA.

BRITISH AMERICAN INSTITUTE, founded in the Township of DAWN, CANADA WEST, for the EDUCATION of REFUGEE SLAVES from the UNITED STATES.

An earnest appeal is now made to British Christians and philanthropists on behalf of the Refugee Slaves in Canada, whose destitute condition calls loudly for pecuniary aid to provide for them the means of a Christian education.

The sum of One Thousand Pounds is now urgently required to enable the Trustees of the above Institute to erect buildings and employ teachers. The Rev. Hiram Wilson is now in England, soliciting the aid of a benevolent public for this purpose. Several distinguished philanthropists have generously contributed to this object; and Mr Wilson has much pleasure in subjoining the following, from among many other testimonials, highly approving and commending its claims to public support.

FROM LORD MORPETH.

"*June* 9, 1843.

"I have felt my interest in the cause to which you have devoted yourself so much increased by my having subsequently been within the sphere of its agency, that I have thought it right to double my previous donation. MORPETH."

FROM THOMAS CLARKSON, ESQ.

"I feel it to be my duty to inform those benevolent friends of the injured African race into whose hands this paper may be put, that the bearer, the Rev. Hiram Wilson of West Canada, has been led, by the providence of God, to become for many years the protector of such fugitive slaves as, having fled from their masters in the United States, have sought refuge in the Canadian territory. In this unprecedented labour of love he has done, I believe, all that man could do. He has aided the poor sufferers in their attempts to escape, and he has had to encounter many and great difficulties and dangers on that account. He has frequently secreted them from their pursuers, frequently lodged and fed them at his own house, and found employment for them. All he wishes for now is to be able to complete his great object, by establishing an institution to be called the 'British American Institute.' Two hundred acres of land have been already bought for this purpose, under the management of trustees. It is proposed that some of the fugitives, particularly those who discover talent, should be received here, and maintain themselves by manual labour upon the land; but at the same time they are to be educated and instructed in the principles of the gospel, but they are not to pay anything themselves for this instruction.

"Now, Mr Wilson and his friends feel themselves unable to complete their plans without aid. Some buildings are to be erected, and schoolmasters to be employed and paid. For these purposes they solicit the assistance of such of the friends of the injured African race as may think this object worthy of their support. THOMAS CLARKSON.

"*Playford hall, Aug.* 16, 1843."

James Cannings Fuller, Esq., of the Society of Friends, is authorised to solicit funds on its behalf.

Donations may be sent to the *Patriot* office, Bolt court, Fleet street; to the Anti-slavery office, 27, New Broad street; and to John Cropper, jun., Esq., Dingle bank, Liverpool. Communications may be made to Mr Wilson, at either of the above places.

An account of all sums received will be published in the *Patriot* and the *Anti-slavery Reporter*.

THE DISSENTERS' and GENERAL LIFE and FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY, established 1837, empowered by Special Act of Parliament, 3d Vict., cap. 20, 62, King William street, London bridge; 21, St David street, Edinburgh; 6, King street, Queen square, Bristol; and St Andrew's hall, Plain, Norwich.

Capital—ONE MILLION.

TRUSTEES, WITH A SEAT AT THE BOARD.

Thomas Challis, Esq. | Thomas Piper, Esq.

DIRECTORS.

George Bousfield, Esq.	Sir John Pirie, Bart, Ald.
Sir J. Easthope, Bart, M.P.	Thomas B. Simpson, Esq.
Peter Ellis, Esq.	Edward Smith, Esq.
Joseph Fletcher, Esq.	Hon. C. P. Villiers, M.P.
Richard Hollier, Esq.	John Wilks, Esq.
Charles Hindley, Esq., M.P.	Edward Wilson, Esq.

The experience of five years, and the growing prosperity of the Company, justify a renewed appeal to public attention and support, especially to Ministers of all denominations among Dissenters and Methodists, and to their friends in general, who approve of its liberal and benevolent arrangements. At the Annual Meeting in May last, not only was there an increased dividend to Proprietors, announced on the Capital advanced by them for public protection against contingencies, but to Life Assurers under Table No. II a BONUS of 12 per cent on the gross premiums paid was declared—with a further Bonus of 10½ per cent to Ministerial Assurers, making to them a total Bonus of no less than 22½ per cent; which, to themselves and their families and friends, must be a satisfactory and encouraging result.

The following is a brief summary of the distinctive features of the Company:—

1. One-tenth of the entire profits is appropriated by the deed of settlement to reducing the premiums payable for assuring the lives of Dissenting and Methodist Ministers, or in other ways similarly beneficial to their families.
2. Certificates of Age and Character, and of the amount of Loss in case of fire, from clergymen and churchwardens, not required, as by many offices.
3. A Table of Premiums for Policies payable at the age of 60, suitable to the case of superannuated Ministers, or of other professional men.
4. The lowest rates of premiums consistent with security, and the payment of Policies guaranteed by a capital of one million.
5. Two Tables of Premiums, the one giving an interest in the profits of the Company to the Life Assurers.
6. Every facility given, on moderate terms, to persons going beyond the prescribed limits of their Policy.
7. Premiums may be paid either annually, half-yearly, or quarterly, in a limited number of payments, or in one sum.
8. Loans advanced on Policies of the value of £50.
9. All claims payable three months after satisfactory proof of death; or earlier, on deduction of discount.
10. No Entrance Fee required.

A liberal allowance to solicitors, surveyors, auctioneers, and agents in town and country.

By order of the Board, THOMAS PRICE, Sec.

PARSONS'S ALEPPO OFFICE WRITING INK.—This very superior Ink, being made with pure ALEPPO GALLS, is equally adapted for Quills and Steel Pens, and combines the requisite qualities of Incorrodibility and Permanency of Colour with an easy flow from the Pen. It is therefore strongly recommended to Merchants, Bankers, Solicitors, Accountants, and others.

*** Warranted not to be affected either by time or climate.

Sold in Quart, Pint, Half-pint, and Sixpenny Bottles, by JOHN PARSONS, Manufacturer of Printing and Writing Inks, 35, Orange street, Gravel lane, Southwark; and 9, Ave Maria lane, London.

Printed and Published at the Office, at No 4, Crane Court, Fleet Street, near Fetter Lane, in the City of London, by JOHN HENRY DAVIS, of No, 76, York Road, Lambeth, in the county of Surrey, on WEDNESDAY, 30th of AUGUST, 1843.